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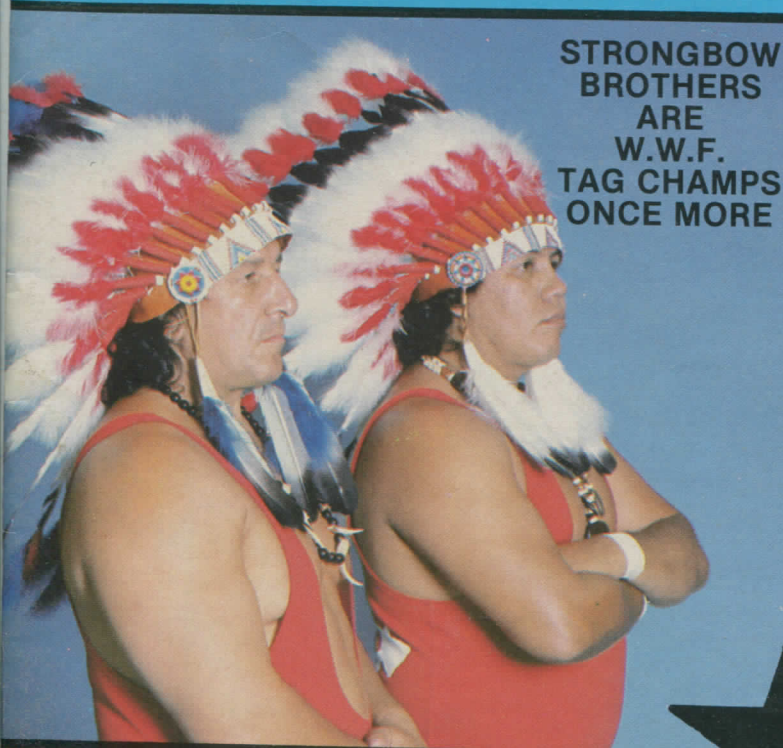
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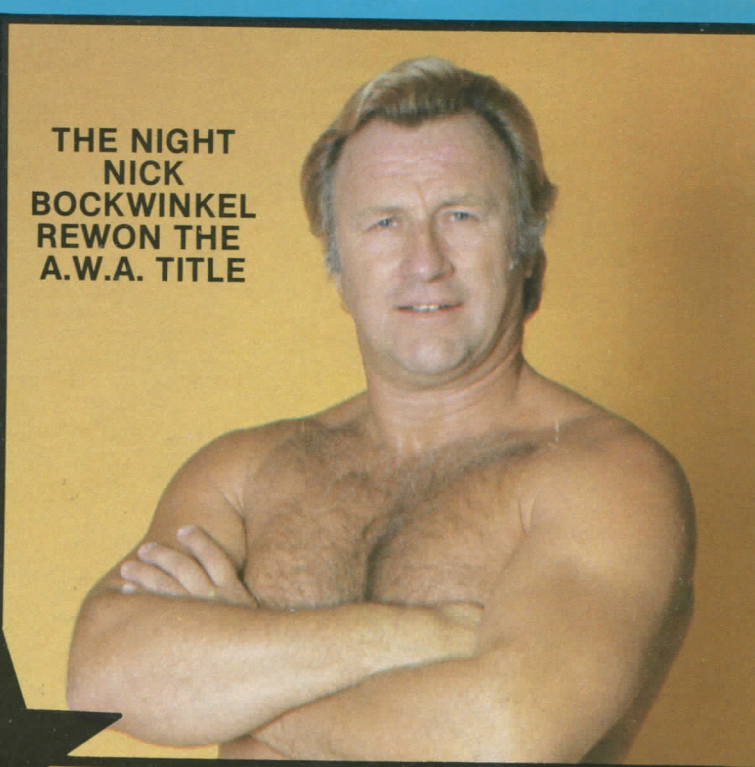
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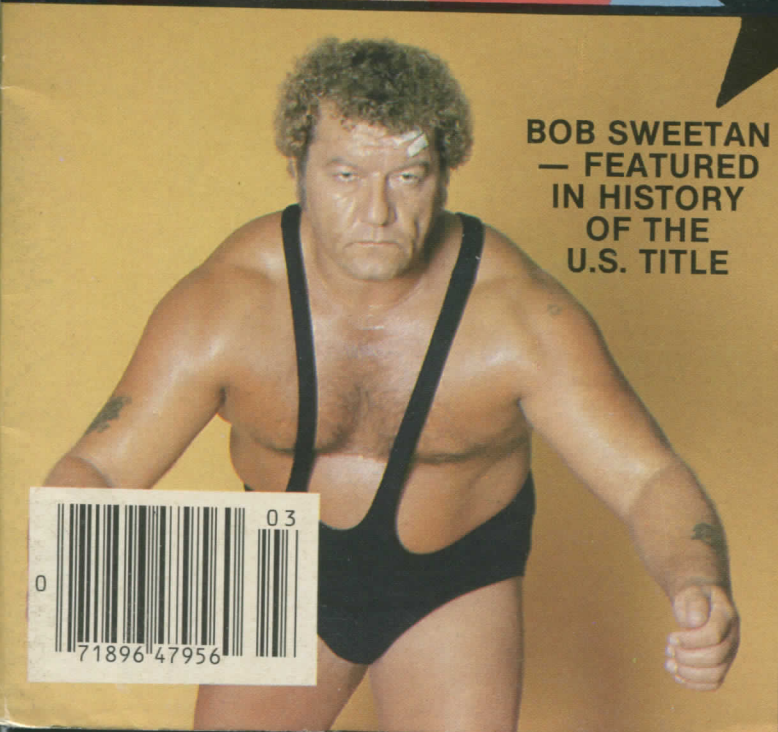
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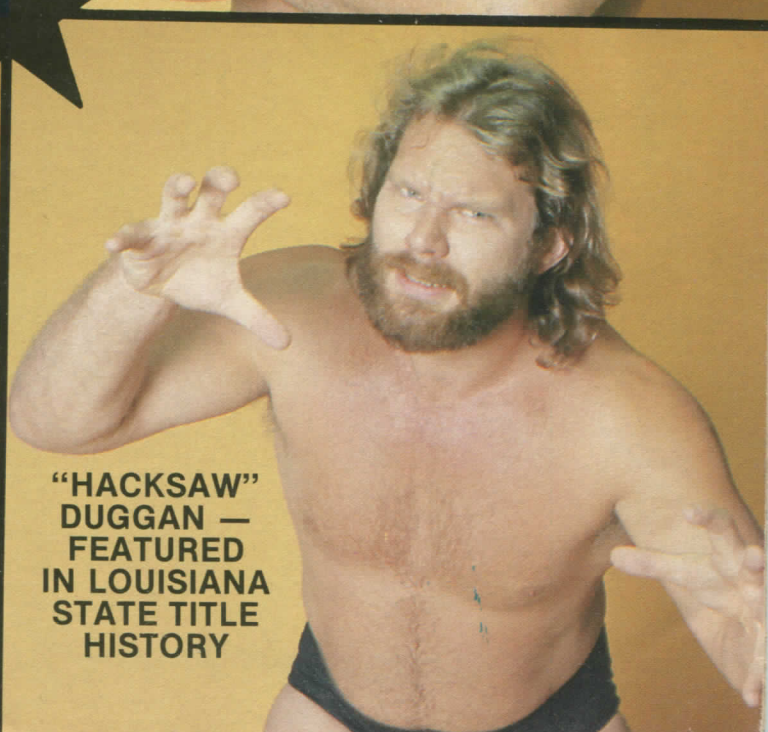
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BOB SWEETAN
— FEATURED
IN HISTORY
OF THE
U.S. TITLE



"HACKSAW"
DUGGAN —
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Wrestling REVUE

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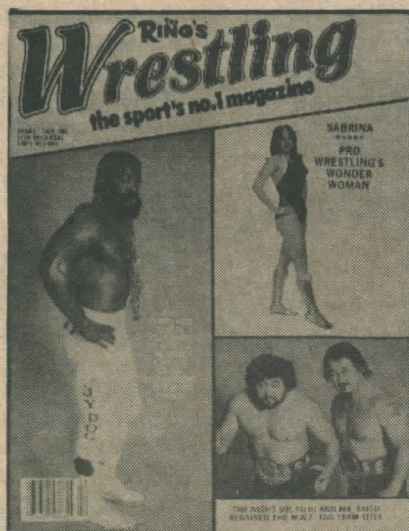
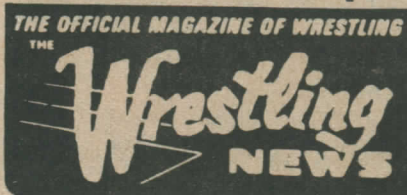
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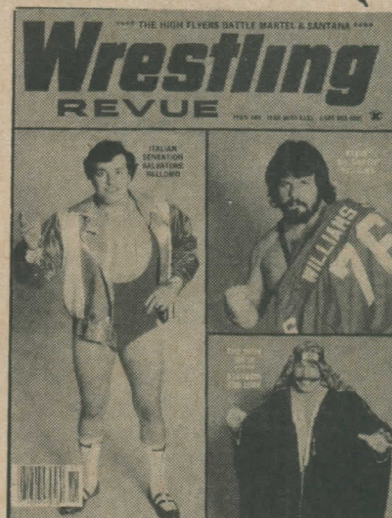
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AS I SEE IT

By James C. Melby



Back in issue number eighty seven we presented a magazine devoted entirely to the histories of many major wrestling championships. Since that time we have published a number of other articles covering other title histories. This time around we have put together a series of articles that not only look at total past tales of a couple of titles, but also present some real recent matches that have found major championships in both the A.W.A. and W.W.F. changing.

For the present we have pretty much exhausted the title histories that we have access to. This does not mean that in some future issue, we won't have in-depth coverage on some other titles. We have a number of our staff members researching other championships, in hopes of putting together entire title histories. If and when these projects can be accurately and completely finished, we of course will bring them forth for your reading pleasure and reference.

Recently we have received a number of letters asking why we don't rate the wrestlers, such as other wrestling magazines do. The answer is that we simply don't feel there is a fair and accurate way to evaluate each wrestler and put him in a ratings system. By the very nature of the sport of professional wrestling, wrestlers move in and out of various alliances, and are constantly reestablishing themselves as contenders, or in many cases winning and losing regional championships. There simply isn't one champion, or one area that is so far superior to the others, that they stand out as number one. On a good night any wrestler can do the impossible and upset any other wrestler.

At best ratings found in wrestling publications are the opinions of the people publishing them. The only official body that issues ratings on a regular basis is the W.W.F. We publish them as they come out in each edition of the official Madison Square Garden

program. And even here they aren't trying to rate who is the best in the entire world, just who is active under the W.W.F. promotional banner, and how they relate as challengers to the W.W.F. Championship.

The truest test of any wrestler's worth is to look at his won-loss record. Ratings and interviews can look impressive, but what a competitor actually accomplishes in bouts in the ring, is the truest test of his merits. Professional wrestlers only progress in the sport by winning matches, so those that are consistent main eventers are obviously a step above the others featured in preliminary contests as far as ability goes.

We also have received a number of letters concerning the general coverage of lady wrestling. First of all we don't give space to things such as apartment house wrestling and mud matches held in bars and saloons, because we don't figure they have anything to do with professional wrestling. We are only concerned with the ladies who compete in rings on cards promoted by

legitimate professional wrestling promotions.

As I have stated in previous issues, we don't have to decorate our magazine with photos of ladies posing as professional wrestlers. We are very proud to offer coverage of the true professional lady wrestlers. In recent issues we have featured full page color pinups of a number of the sport's top female competitors, who happen to all be very attractive in their own right. We will continue to bring you readers others in future issues. Top lady stars such as Vivian St. John, Peggy Lee, and Penny Mitchell have already been photographed, and are scheduled for upcoming issues.

We welcome reader feedback, it is the only true way that we can learn if we are presenting the coverage that you desire. Please feel free to write to us at P.O. Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56002 and let us know not only about what we have published in the past, but what you would like to see us print in the future.



A.W.A. Heavyweight Champion Nick Bockwinkel, T.W.N. Managing Editor James C. Melby, and six times N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion Lou Thesz

ON AND AROUND THE MAT WORLD

THE WRESTLING NEWS® AREA CLOSE-UPS COMPILED BY JAMES C. MELBY

Welcome to Area Close-ups for issue #93 of THE WRESTLING NEWS. As I tell you at the beginning of each trip "On And Around The Mat World," the attempt of this column is to try and cover the entire world of professional wrestling. I determine the coverage based on the many reports that we receive, and also on the basis of what we feel is the most news-worthy. As we have stated in the past, we repeat this issue, so that new readers are aware of our own personal policies and prejudices in writing this column. While we do not recognize any one claim to the heavyweight championship of the world as being the genuine kingpin of our sport, I do consider the heavyweight titles as recognized by the A.W.A., the W.W.F., and the N.W.A. as being the most valid titles in our sport, and as being a step above all other regional titles. With that in mind, let us start our trip.



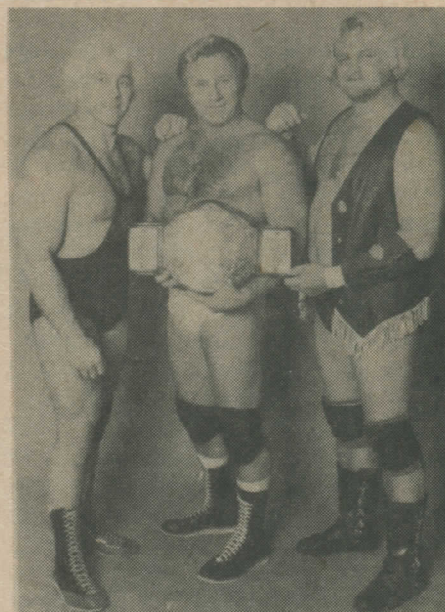
THE AMERICAN WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

The A.W.A. is basically made up of a core of promoters, which includes: Dennis Hilgart (Milwaukee), Don Brinton (Winnipeg), Joe Dusek (Omaha), Dwaine Hoberg (Fargo-Moorhead), John Olsen (Salt Lake City), Leo Nomellini (San Francisco-Oakland), Gene Reed (Denver), Bob Luce (Chicago), and Wally Karbo and Marty O'Neil (Minneapolis-St. Paul). These fine promoters basically share the fine talent that is wrestling under the A.W.A. banner, recognizing the alliance's champions, and they usually present big cards once or twice a month in their respective cities. Besides the spot shows presented by the A.W.A. core promoters, there are also a number of other small cards presented by Al DeRusha and Rodger Kent throughout Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and the Dakotas.

Nick Bockwinkel continues to reign as the A.W.A. World's Heavyweight Champion. Part of his success must be credited to his shrewd manager Bobby "The Brain" Heenan. Together the two might seem to lose a war or two, but never the ultimate battle.

Nick's biggest headaches lately seem to come from two very exciting young challengers — Ricky Martel and Tito Santana. Martel has been shaking up the A.W.A. tag team scene also with Steve Olsonoski at his side.

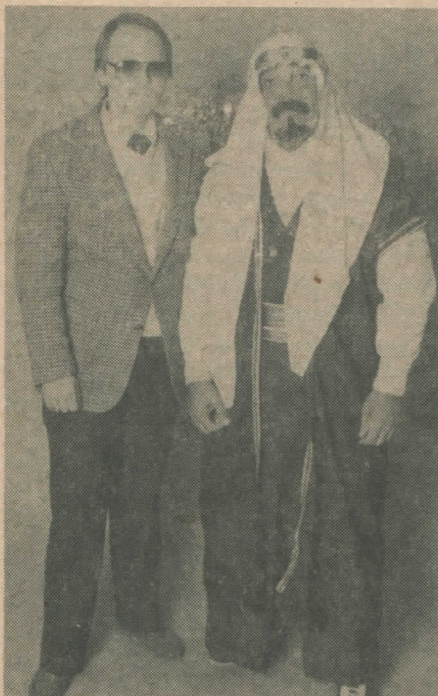
The reign of Greg Gagne and "Jumping" Jim Brunzell may be coming to an end as a result of some devious actions by Sheiks Adnann El Kaissey and Jerry Blackwell. It all started during a T.V. match pitting Brad Rheingans and Buddy Lane versus The Sheiks. Rheingans thrilled the home viewers when he defeated Blackwell in the first fall with a clearcut pin. When the second fall started The Sheiks got completely out of control. They mauled not only their opponents, but also referee Kenny "Sodbuster" Jay. Jay had call-



Ken Patera, Nick Bockwinkel, & Bobby Duncum.

ed for their disqualification, but there was no stopping their rampage. Rheingans injured his ankle so badly when he was tossed over the top rope, that he had to be taken to St. Paul's Midway Hospital for surgery. A number of wrestlers rushed out of the dressing room to stop the beating that The Sheiks were inflicting upon Lane and Jay, but they were quickly disposed of. Greg Gagne then leaped into the ring and started nailing the two wild men with a series of flying dropkicks. Sheik Adnann El Kaissey knocked him out of the ring too, after clobbering him with a foreign object. Blackwell put the finishing touches on Gagne by bodyslamming him on the hard cement ringside floor. He then jumped on him with his almost 500 pounds!

The end result of this melee is that not only is Rheingans out on the injured list, but so is Gagne. The A.W.A. has ruled that if Greg can't return to the ring and defend the title, that The High Flyers will have to forfeit the crown. Blackwell and El Kaissey are claiming the title, as are



James C. Melby & Sheik Adnann El Kaissey.

Heenan's "Black & Blue Express," Ken Patera and "Big Bad" Bobby Duncum. To complicate matters Mad Dog Vachon just recently injured El Kaissey's arm so badly in a Wisconsin brawl, that he now is wearing a cast. We will bring you the A.W.A.'s ruling on this whole matter as soon as the championship committee makes a decision.

Others recently wrestling under the A.W.A. banner not already mentioned include: Baron Von Raschke, "Terrible" Tom Lintz, Jim "The Iron Duke" Mitchell, Larry Hennig, Jesse "The Body" Ventura, The Incredible Hulk Hogan, Ray Stevens, Pat Patterson, John Tolos, Jerry Monti, Dick The Bruiser, Sgt. Jacques Goulet, "Rock & Roll" Buck Zum Hofe, Adrian Adonis, Tony Leone, Woody Wilson, Andre The Giant, Dan Redman, Herman Schafer, Stormy Granchie, Al Ringo, Art Crews, "Rocky" Tom Stone, Juan Sebastian, Jake Milamen, Freddy Peloquin, Sonny Rogers, Ben DeLeon, and midget stars Little Tokyo, Frammer Pete, Lone Eagle, and Tiny Tom.

I hate to close the A.W.A. section on such a sad note, but I'm afraid that I must report that George "Scrapiron" Gadaski died recently after a long illness. I was very proud to call George my friend, and I'm sure he will be missed by all those fans who followed his career in the ring as both a grappler and a referee.

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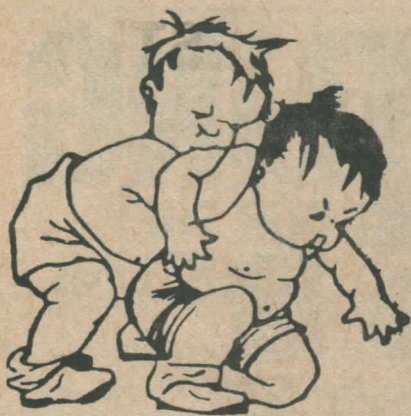
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SOUTHWEST CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

This group of promoters is headquartered in San Antonio, Texas, and holds a membership in the A.W.A. They recognize Nick Bockwinkel as champion, and he makes many title defenses in the area on a regular basis. Mr. Joe Blanchard is the president of Southwest Championship Wrestling.

One of the biggest news items concerning this promotion is that their weekly T.V. show is now being shown

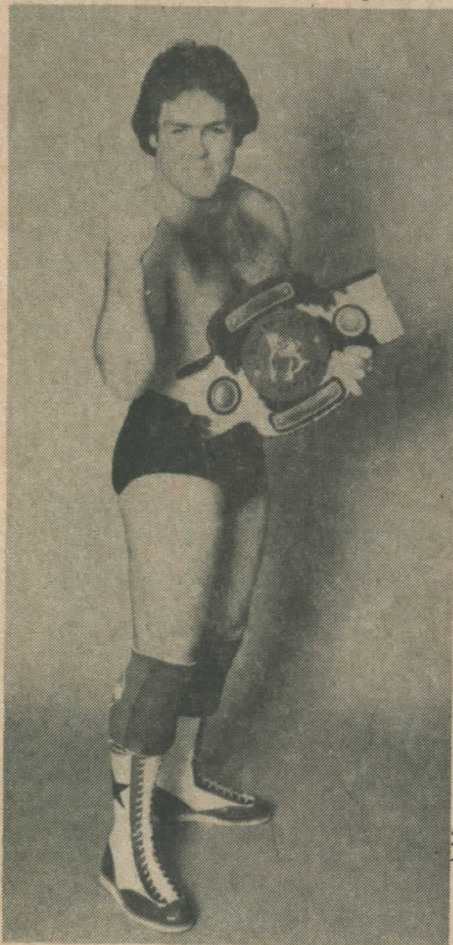
coast to coast on the U.S.A. cable network every Sunday morning. I'm sure fans everywhere will agree with me that the Southwest Championship Wrestling T.V. cards are very exciting, with main event calibre matches being presented on a regular basis.

Ricky Morton and Ken Lucas won a one night elimination tournament in Corpus Christi to take the vacant Southwest Tag Team Championship. Their main contenders are the masked team of the Grapplers. It was in fact The Grapplers who Morton and Lucas defeated in the finals of the tag team tournament. They are claiming that Ricky and Ken didn't win the belts fairly as they pinned the wrong man to take the verdict.

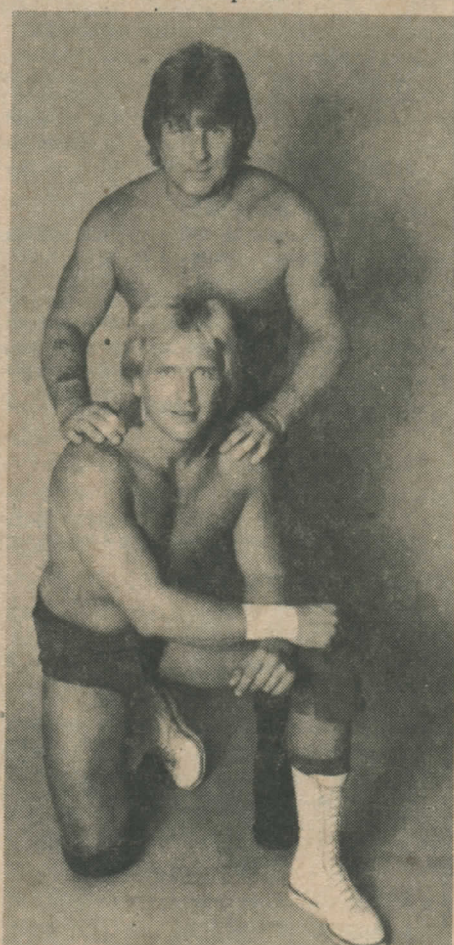
The Southwest Heavyweight Championship is vacant at the moment. Champion Dick Slater was forced to relinquish his crown when he was unable to make any title defenses within the required time limit, due to the fact that he was booked solid outside of the arena. I believe an elimination tournament is being planned to decide a new champion.

The biggest feud in the area involves Tully Blanchard and "Mr. Piledriver" Bob Sweetan. Blanchard has placed a large bounty on Sweetan's head for recently giving him a piledriver during a T.V. interview, that caused Tully to wear a neck brace for several weeks. To collect Blanchard's money, a wrestler has to in turn take care of Sweetan with a piledriver of their own. Bob has fought off a number of bounty hunters including Jerry "The King" Lawler, Killer Khan, "Hangman" Bobby Jagers, Adrian Adonis, and Vladic Smirnoff.

Others wrestling in Southwest rings recently not already mentioned include: Don Carson's Ninja Warrior, Cowboy Scott Casey, El Gran Apollo, Ali Bey The Turk, El Santo Negro, "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan, Terry Daniels, Cocoa Samoa, Ken Johnson, Juan Reynosa, Grenade Bowyer, Dusty Woods, Tug Taylor, and Bobby Jones.



Tully Blanchard



Lucas & Morton



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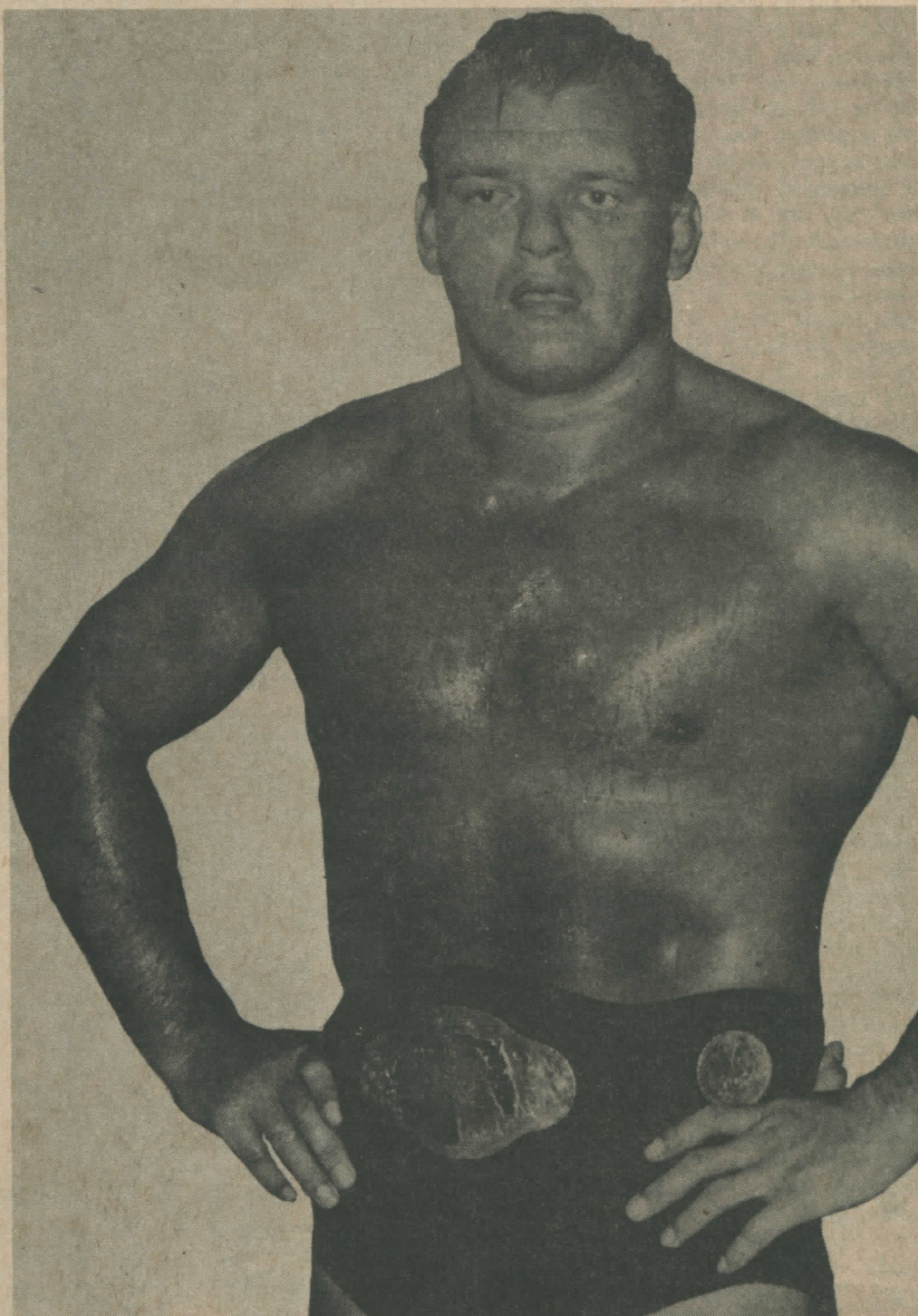
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As reported in previous issues, this office holds memberships in both the A.W.A. and N.W.A., and in recent months has used both Nick Bockwinkel and "Nature Boy" Ric Flair on T.V. and live cards, defending their respective championships.

Let us start out by taking a look at the recognized championships in the area, they are as follows: Southern Heavyweight Champion — Jerry "The King" Lawler, W.W.A. World's Tag Team Champions — The Fabulous Ones (Steve Keirn & Stan Lane), managed by Jackie Fargo, Southern Tag Teams Champions — The New York Dolls (The Dream Machine & Rick McGraw), managed by Jimmy Hart, and Mid America Heavyweight Champion — Dutch Mantell.

It seems in this area no one can remain neutral, there are so many feuds going on that it is sometimes hard to keep track. On the tag team scene The Fabulous Ones and The New York Dolls have been going at it, including their respective managers.

Bill Dundee and Dutch Mantell buried the hatchet to oppose their mutual enemies, The New Zealand Shepherders. Jerry Lawler has been continuing his on-going-war against not only Nick Bockwinkel, but also manager Jimmy Hart's entire "First Family."

Former staff writer/photographer Jim Cornette has had the fans up in arms with his recent comments and maneuvers also. He seems determined to replace Jimmy Hart and Jackie Fargo as the area's top manager. Already he has Crusher Broomfield and Jesse Barr under contract, and has guided them both to a long string of important ring victories.

Others wrestling in the area not already mentioned include: Bobby Fulton, Jacques Rougeau, Terry Taylor, Bobby Eaton, Sweet Brown Sugar, Buddy Landell, Carl Fergie, The Angel, Spike Huber, Steve Regal, Kimala, El Bracero, and Max Blue.

A point of interest is that this office has brought pro wrestling back to the city of Indianapolis, Indiana, which hadn't been promoted for a four month time span. At the present time they are holding monthly cards at the Tyndall Armory.



Jerry "The King" Lawler



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WRESTLING REVUE 11

MID SOUTH WRESTLING ASSOCIATION

As we have reported in past issues, this fine organization has three booking offices — Jackson, Mississippi, which is headed by George and Gil Culkin, Shreveport, Louisiana, which is headed by Grizzly Smith and Jack Curtis Jr., and Tulsa, Oklahoma, which is headed by Cowboy Bill Watts. Recently Houston, Texas joined the M.S.W.A. Houston promoters Paul Boesch and Peter Birkholtz still work closely with the A.W.A. and Southwest Championship Wrestling also. Charlie Leigh of Tampa, Florida is the president of the M.S.W.A.

First lets look at the current champions recognized by the M.S.W.A. — North American Heavyweight Champion — Stagger Lee, Mid South Tag Team Champions — Ted DiBiase and Matt Borne, Louisiana State Heavyweight Champion — “Hacksaw” Jim Duggan, Mississippi State Heavyweight Champion — Mr. Wrestling II, and Brass Knucks Champion — Cowboy Bill Watts.

Stagger Lee remains the man grabbing the headlines. He defeated Ted DiBiase to capture the North American Heavyweight Title on a very big card held in the New Orleans Superdome on Thanksgiving night. Ted claimed that he wouldn't have lost the match and the belt if he first hadn't been softened up by The Fabulous Freebirds during a title match that he and Matt Borne wrestled against them earlier on the same card.

Some may feel that DiBiase is right when he claims that Stagger Lee is really The Junkyard Dog, but so far he has been unable to prove that point to anyone. He did unmask Stagger Lee in one bout, but his rival was able to cover his face before anyone could see his true identity. In a T.V. match both DiBiase and Borne unmasked a Stagger Lee, who turned out to be Joe Gaines, but when they did, the real Stagger Lee appeared on the scene and gave them yet another licking.

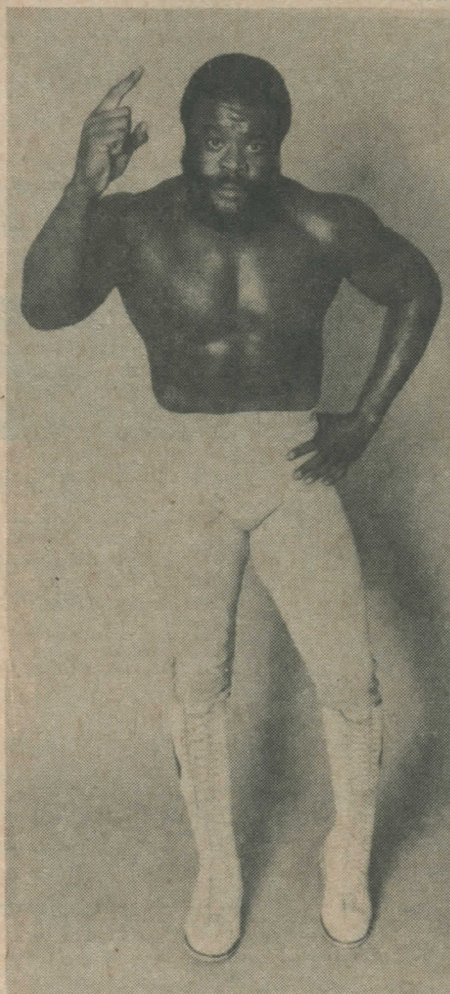
Another feud in the area involves “Hacksaw” Jim Duggan and Tony “Mr. USA” Atlas. This feud started

from a T.V. incident when Duggan challenged Atlas to a workout demonstration, and then attacked him when he was shown up.

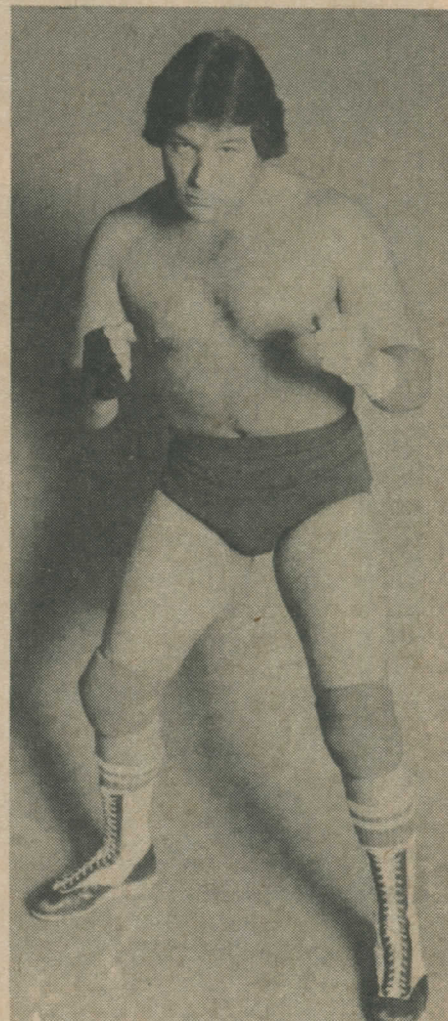
As always there is much fine wrestling talent competing under the M.S.W.A. banner, recent participants have include: Mr. Olympia, “Iron” Mike Sharpe, Col. Buck Robley, Kimala, who is now being managed by “General” Scandor Akber, Bob Roop, Mil Mascaras, Chavo Guerrero, “Gorgeous” Gino Hernandez, Tully Blanchard, The Grapplers, Bob Roop, King Cobra, Hiro Matsuda, Yoshi Yatsu, Tim Horner, Kelly Kiniski, John & Rick Davidson, Mike Bond, Tiger Conway Jr., Cowboy Scott Casey, Dick Slater, Dos Caras, A.W.A. Heavyweight Champion Nick Bockwinkel, “Hangman” Bobby Jagers, Grenade Bowyer, Ricky Morton, Juan Reynosa, El Silencio, Marty Lunde, Ted Allen, Tony Anthony, Jesse Barr, Vinnie Romeo, and lady wrestlers Princess Victoria and Le Lani Kai.



“Iron” Mike Sharpe



The Junkyard Dog



Ted DiBiase

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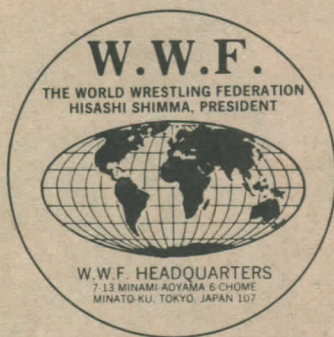
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THE WORLD WIDE WRESTLING FEDERATION

We first start our look at the W.W.F. office based in Los Angeles, California headed up by promoter Mike LeBell. Recent title action in L.A. saw W.W.F. Heavyweight Champion Bob Backlund defend his crown against El Monarca. Other recognized champions include: America's Heavyweight Champion — Cyclone Negro, America's Tag Team Champions — and California Ladies State Champion — Sonya Sanchez.

Cowboy Bob Orton Jr. got into quite a bit of trouble with N.W.A.

representative Jeff Walton when he took it upon himself to attack referee Red Shoes Duggan. Promoter LeBell, I might add, holds memberships in both the W.W.F. and N.W.A.

Some recent matches have featured other wrestlers such as Mil Mascaras, Dos Caras, Hector and Mando Guerrero, Rasputin, Billy Anderson, and lady wrestler The Cat. Promoter LeBell has been featuring many of the W.W.F. core wrestlers on T.V., and hopes to feature more of them on live cards in months to come.

We next usually visit the W.W.F. Mexico City office headed by promoter Francisco Flores. We haven't received any up to date information on his "Universal Wrestling Association," but hope to have news on this area to report by the time we write next month's column.

Next we travel to Montreal, Quebec, Canada to visit the W.W.F. office headed by promoter Frank Valois. Billy Robinson remains the recognized International Heavyweight Champion. Two men who have been doing their best to take that honor away from Robinson and his manager Lord

Alfred Hayes have been Ed Carpentier and The Intelligent Sensational Destroyer. Another red-hot feud involves The Italian Connection (Tony Parisi and Gino Brito) and the duo of Gilles "The Fish" Poisson and The Hangman.

Others recently active in the area have included: Pat Patterson, Dino Bravo, Andre The Giant, Louis Lawrence, Tito Senza, Jerry Ho, Tony Russo, and midget stars Little Brutus and Tiger Jackson.

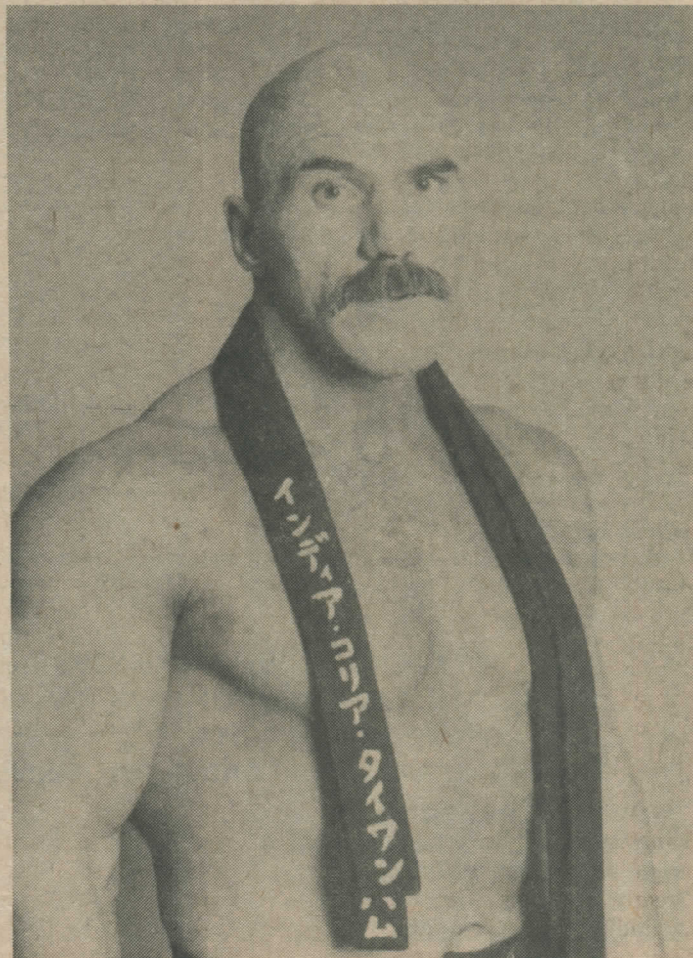
Staying in Canada we next visit the Toronto, Ontario, office headed by promoter Frank Tunney, who holds a membership in both the W.W.F. and N.W.A.

Recent match action in the area saw W.W.F. Heavyweight Champion Bob Backlund come through with flying colors against persistent challenger "Playboy" Buddy Rose. Two other men who have been gaining their fair share of the limelight have been "Handsome" Jimmy Valiant and Ivan Koloff. Valiant finally bested Koloff in their bloody feud.

Two others who continue to feud in the area are Johnny Weaver and Leo



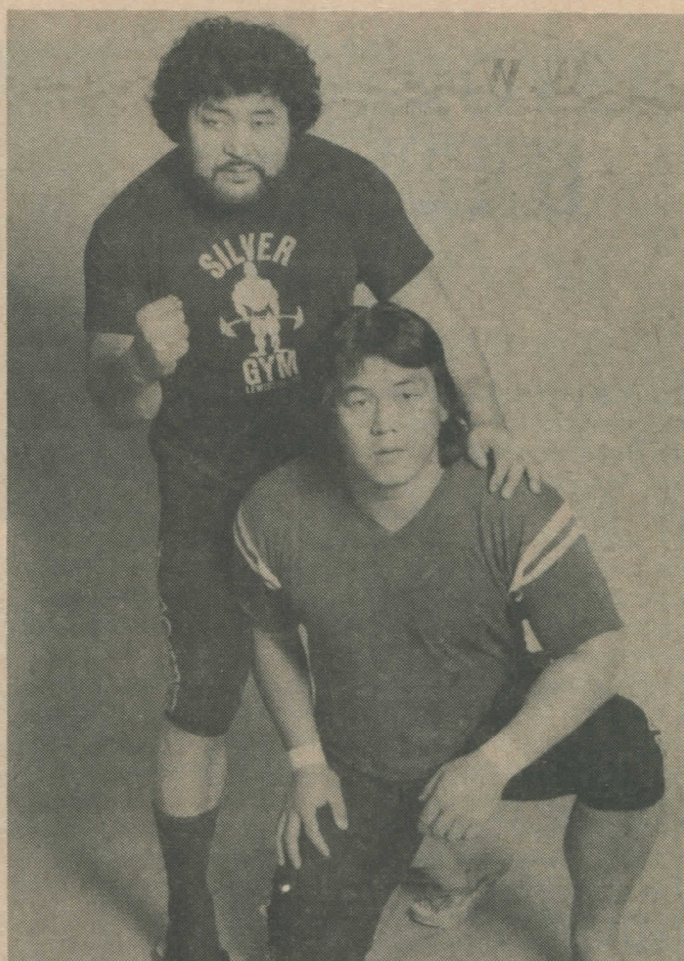
Ray Stevens & Fred Blassie.
14 THE WRESTLING NEWS



"Superstar" Billy Graham



"Playboy" Buddy Rose



Mr. Saito & Riki Choshu

Burke. Private Jim Nelson is still the Canadian T.V. Champion, and he recently has made defenses against John Bonello and Rudy Kay.

Others seen recently in area action have been; The Intelligent Sensational Destroyer, Terry Kay, Salvatore Bellomo, LeRoy Brown, Swede Hanson, King Parsons, Mike Davis, Bill White, Keith Larsen, Bobby Bass, and Bill Armstrong.

And as usual we conclude this section by looking at the real core of the W.W.F. — "Capitol Wrestling Corporation," which is headed by promoters Vince McMahon and Phil Zacko. By now it is obvious that Bob Backlund is still the W.W.F. Heavyweight Champion, he has been active for nearly just about all of the leading promoters of the group within the last month.

W.W.F. Junior Heavyweight Champion Tiger Mask has made a number of recent title defenses in the U.S.A. recently against stiff competition such as Eddie Gilbert and Jose Estrada. Although these men are lighter than many other pros, the action has been

so fast and furious that they provide, that in some cases they have almost stolen the thunder away from the main eventers.

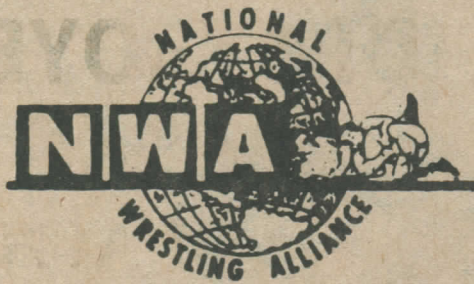
Chief Jay and Jules Strongbow are still the W.W.F. Tag Team Champions. They have to contend with Mr. Saito, who has not only been tag teaming with Mr. Fuji, but also recently with Riki Choshu. The Samoans, another pair of former champions, have also returned to the W.W.F. to give the popular Indians some anxious moments.

The hottest feud still involves Jimmy "Superfly" Snuka and his manager "Nature Boy" Buddy Rogers and Ray "Crippler" Stevens and his managers co-managers Captain Lou Albano and Fred Blassie. Bouts involving these individuals have been really packing in the fans whenever and wherever they clash.

Bob Backlund's feud with "Superstar" Billy Graham is a real hot issue also. A recent match between them in New York City's Madison Square Garden drew a crowd of 25,609 plus another 3,590 fans who watched

the card on closed circuit in the Felt Forum. Graham and manager The Grand Wizard claim they won't let up until they wrestle the title back from Backlund, who won it from them over four years ago. Bob must also now watch for newcomer "Big" John Studd and returning "Magnificent" Muraco.

Others competing in W.W.F. rings include: The Intelligent Sensational Destroyer, Pat Patterson, "Polish Power" Ivan Putski, S.D. Jones, Salvatore Bellomo, Johnny Rodz, Baron Mikel Scicluna, Curt Hennig, "Playboy" Buddy Rose, Mr. Haiti, Rocky Johnson, Inter-continental Heavyweight Champion Pedro Morales, Swede Hanson, Tony Garea, Chin Kobiashi, Charlie Fulton, Bob Bradley, Jeff Craney, Tony Russo, Pete Sanchez, Ed Carson, Frankie Williams, Victor Mercado, Joe Martin, Mac Rivera, Joe Espada, Steve King, Joe Markis, and midget stars Little Beaver, Sky Low Low, Sonny Boy Blue, and Butch Cassidy.



THE NATIONAL WRESTLING ALLIANCE

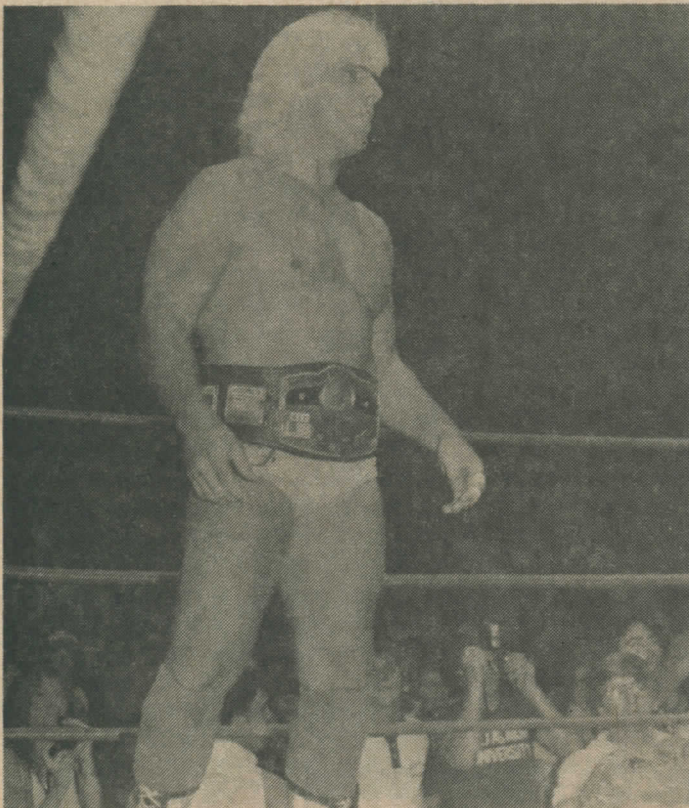
We start out our look normally by looking at the Caribbean. The only news that we have recently received from there is that Abdullah The Butcher is on a reign of terror in the island rings.

We also only have one report on Hawaii that stated that Rocky Johnson, Siva Afi, Ox Baker, Ron Starr, Prince Tonga, and Peter Maivia Jr. have recently seen ring action. We hope to have more up to date and complete reports on these two areas for our next issue.

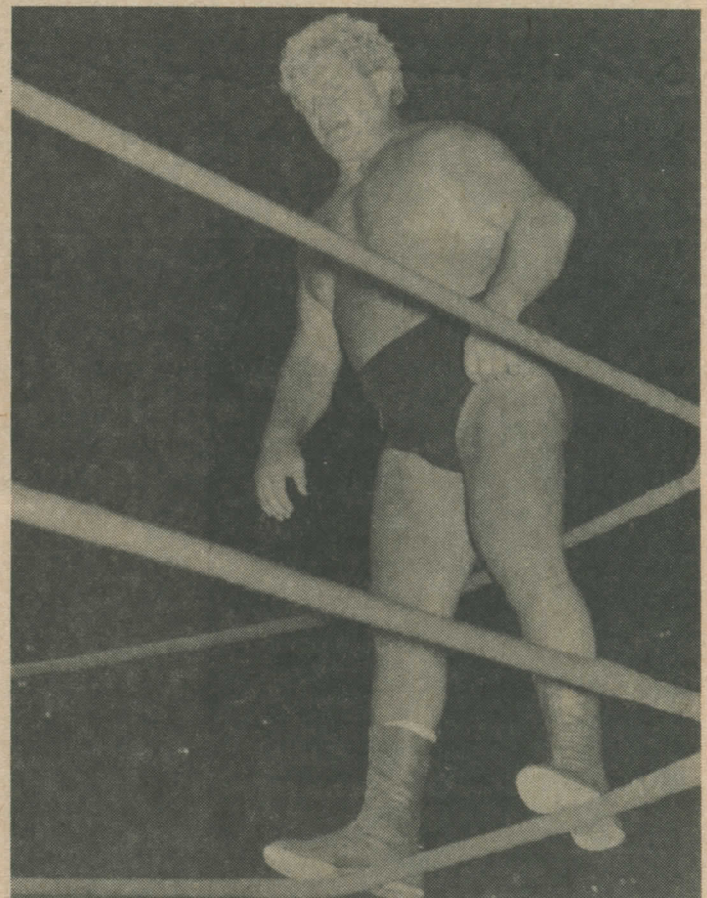
The Kansas City N.W.A. office headed by this organization's current president, Bob Geigel, we are more well informed about. Manny Fernandez is still this area's Central States Champion and Ray "Hercules" Hernandez is the recognized T.V. Champion.

Hernandez and Dewey Robertson were the Central States Tag Team Champions, but that title was held up after a wild and controversial match that the duo wrestled against Buzz Tyler and "Bulldog" Bob Brown.

Other news finds Brown winning the annual K.C. Thanksgiving battle royal, and Harley Race battling N.W.A. Champion "Nature Boy" Ric Flair to a time limit draw decision.



"Nature Boy" Ric Flair



Dick the Bruiser

Others who have recently wrestled in the K.C. area include: Col. Buck Robley, Crusher Ayala, Mark Romero, King Kong Bundy, Jerry Brown, Ti John Tibbedeux, Tom Andrews, "Nature Boy" Roger Kirby, Omar Atlas, Mike George, Art Crews, Manager Gary Royal, Dick The Bruiser, Kim Duk, The Super Destroyer, midget stars Little Coco and Billy The Kid, and lady wrestlers Peggy Lee and Sabrina.

Another N.W.A. office that Mr. Geigel is involved in is the one located in St. Louis, Mo. Larry Matysik is this office's General Manager with former World Champions Verne Gagne and Pat O'Connor also having promotional involvement.

Bruce Reed is definitely the headliner grabber in the St. Louis area as of late. In recent weeks he defeated Missouri State Heavyweight Harley Race by disqualification, battled Jerry Blackwell to a time limit draw on T.V., and pinned N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion "Nature Boy" Ric Flair to win a tag match for himself and partner Dick The Bruiser over the champ and Blackwell. As we go to press Reed has been awarded a title crack at Flair's coveted crown in St. Louis.

Ric was a little bit more fortunate in turning back the challenge of Ken Patera in another Mound City mat encounter. With men like Blackwell, Bruiser, Kerry Von Erich, and King Kong Brody all recently piling up impressive victories, Flair would just as soon make himself scarce on the local scene.

Crusher Ayala gained a bit of fame by winning a ten man battle royal recently on T.V. Cowboy Bob Orton Jr. is also starting to make a name for himself in St. Louis.

Others recently wrestling in the area include: Greg Valentine, Ivan Koloff, Mark Romero, Buzz Tyler, Dewey Robert-

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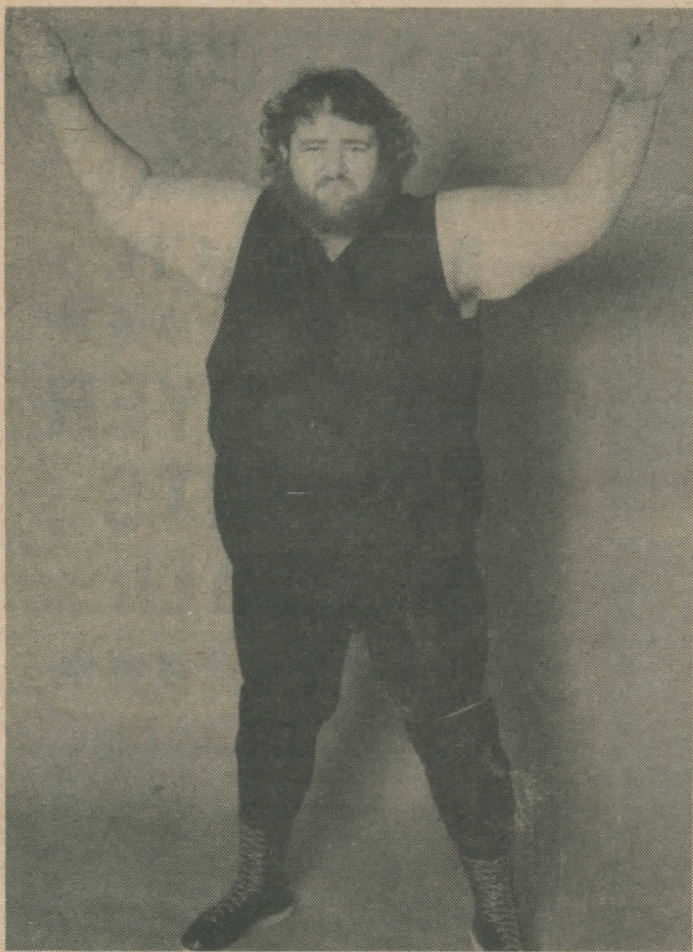
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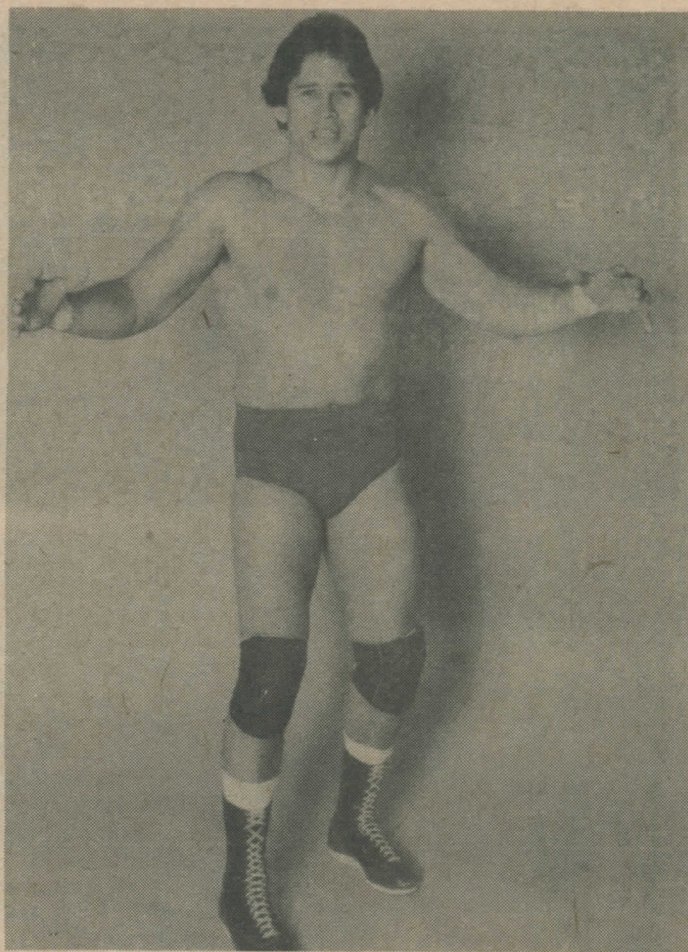
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WRESTLING REVUE 17





Jerry Blackwell



Tito Santana

son, Ray "Hercules" Hernandez, Manny Fernandez, Omar Atlas, "Bulldog" Bob Brown, Mike George, "Nature Boy" Roger Kirby, Kim Duk, Spike Huber, Gary Royal, Jim Lancaster, Art Crews, Al Snow, Terry Orndorff, Ben Patrick, Charlie Reid, Greg Lake, Jimmy Doo, Max Blue, and lady wrestlers Sabrina and Peggy Lee.

Next we visit the Charlotte, N.C. N.W.A. office, which is headed by promoters Jim and David Crockett. Biggest news from the area finds Joe LeDuc being stripped of the area's T.V. Title. Despite protests by manager Sir Oliver Humperdink, LeDuc was stripped of the title when a video tape replay proved that he used the ropes for illegal leverage to gain a decision over Johnny Weaver. Humperdink still has other champions in his stable known as "The House of Humperdink." Greg Valentine is the U.S. Champion and Paul Jones is the Mid Atlantic Heavyweight Champion.

Sgt. Slaughter and Private Don Kernodle still own this area's recognized World's Tag Team Championship. They took care of top contenders Ricky Steamboat and Jay Youngblood by injuring the popular Indian star. Now they have new problems as Roddy Piper has brought in Abdullah The Butcher as his partner, and they are seeking the belts.

N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion "Nature Boy" Ric Flair has been very active in the area recently, defending his title against Dusty Rhodes, Piper, Wahoo McDaniel, and Jack Brisco.

Sir Oliver Humperdink regained the T.V. Title when Bad Bad LeRoy Brown outlasted Sweet Brown Sugar to win a 20 man battle royal, taking the belt and \$10,000.00 prize money,

as 15,498 Greensboro fans screamed their disapproval.

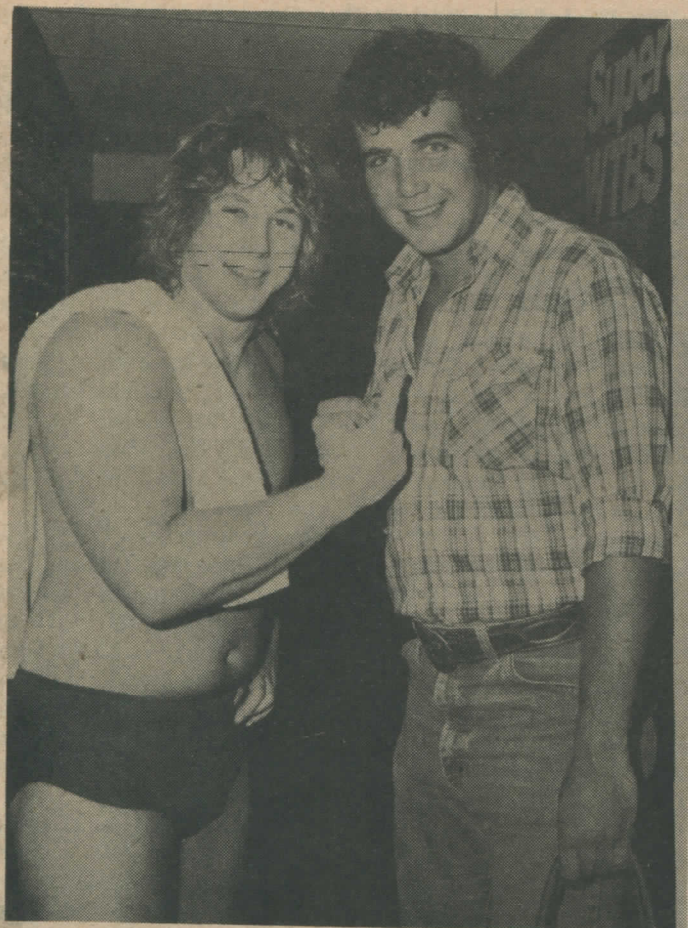
Former N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion Dory Funk Jr., has been offering \$100,000.00 to anyone who can pin him within ten minutes. So far Jack Brisco, Sweet Brown Sugar, Mike Rotundo, and Mike Davis have failed to collect the money.

Others appearing in the Mid Atlantic are recently include: "Handsome" Jimmy Valiant, Cowboy Bob Orton Jr., Masa Fuchi, Ken Timbs, Frank Monte, Ron Richards, King Parsons, Juan Reynosa, Porkchop Cash, Bill White, Private Jim Nelson, Gene Anderson, Jim Dalton, Keith Larsen, Abe Jacobs, Gary Black, Ricky Rudd, Joe Laurin, and lady wrestlers The Fabulous, who is that division's champion, and Sabrina.

Next we venture to the N.W.A. Atlanta, Georgia office, that is headed by promoters Paul Jones and Jim Barnett. Current champions in this promotion are Paul Orndorff — National Heavyweight Champion, and The Samoans, managed by Sonny King — National Tag Team Champions.

For Orndorff men such as Ivan Koloff, The Iron Sheik, and Buzz Sawyer have been offering the stiffest challenge. Meanwhile The Samoans have title threats with combinations such as The Moondogs, managed by J.J. Dillon, Tito Santana & Brad Armstrong, and Tommy & Johnny Rich all active in the area.

Much like in St. Louis Bruce Reed is the hottest wrestler on the scene. His feud with Buzz Sawyer has been the highlight of many recent cards.



Tom Prichard & Johnny Rich

Others wrestling in the area recently have been: Ole Anderson, Les Thornton, Chief Red Eagle, Chic Donovan, Paul Brown, Mike Thompson, Mike Starbuck, Randy Barber, Dale Veasey, Mike Jackson, Rick Benfield, Jim and Bruce Gallagher, Marvin Turner, Ed Timbs, Zane Smith, Bob Brown, John King, Billy Smith, Randy Mulley, and Larry Hamilton.

Next we travel to the N.W.A. Tampa office, which is also headed by promoter Jim Barnett. This office's current champions are: Southern Heavyweight Champion — Dusty Rhodes, Florida State Heavyweight Champion — Kevin Sullivan, Global Tag Team Champions — Jim Garvin and "Big" John Studd, and Bahamas Heavyweight Champions — Jim Garvin.

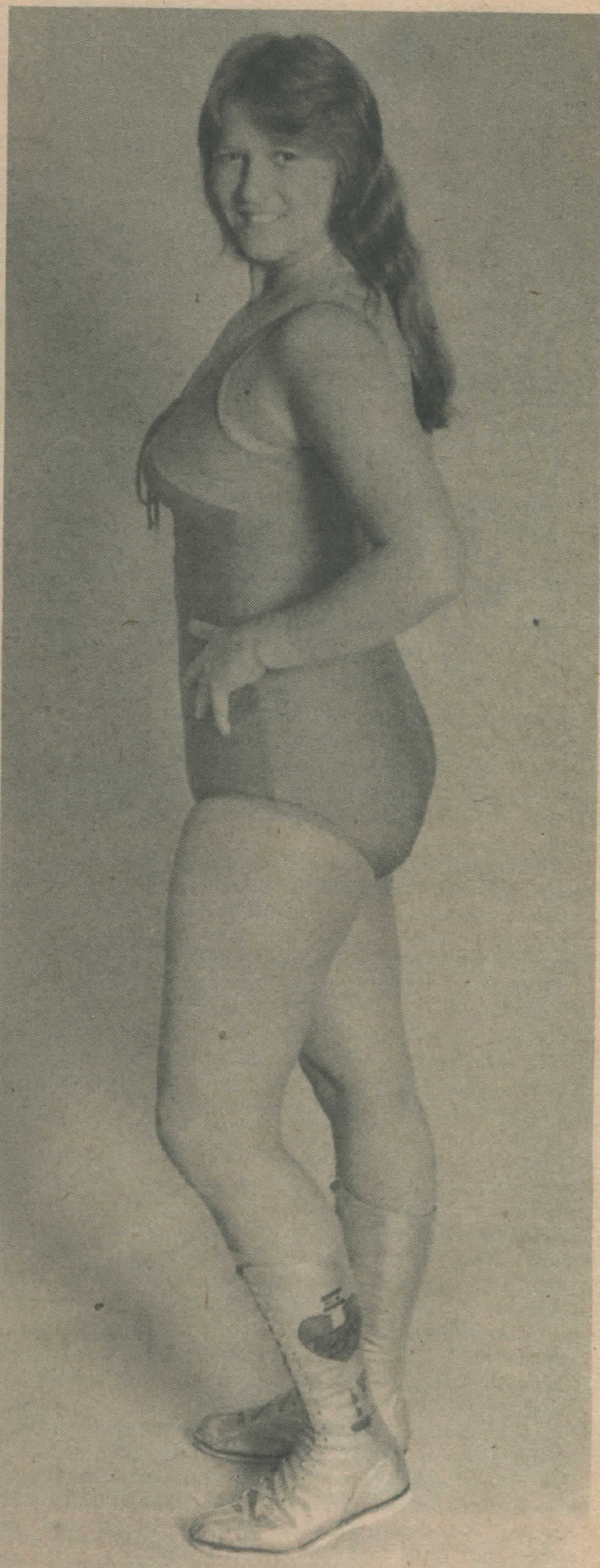
All the recognized champions have been active in recent weeks, with Rhodes and Garvin feuding with each other. Ernie Ladd had a falling out with manager J.J. Dillon, and now is at odds with his stable that includes: Angelo Mosca, John Studd, and Kendo Nagasaki.

Dillon himself has been trying to fight off Rufus R. Jones, who has been trying to humiliate J.J. by putting him into a weasel suit.

N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion "Nature Boy" Ric Flair has recently defended his title laurels in the sunshine state against both Dusty Rhodes and Barry Windham.

Others recently wrestling in Florida include: Outlaw Ron Bass, Mike Graham, Terry Allen, Scott McGee, Jake "The Snake" Roberts, Charlie Cook, Brian Blair, The Destroyer, The Texan, Tommy Wright, Bruce Walkup, Jerry Grey, and lady wrestlers Penny Mitchell and Terri Shane.

Still in the south we move along to the Dothan, Alabama booking office, also a member of the N.W.A. Current



Peggy Lee



Tiny Tom & Lone Eagle

recognized champions there are: Southeastern Heavyweight Champion — David Shultz, Alabama State Heavyweight Champion — Wayne Farris, Southeastern Tag Team Champion — The Midnight Express (Dennis Condry, Norvel Austin, and Randy Rose), U.S. Junior Heavyweight Champion — Bill Ash.

This is another area where all the champions have been very active defending their respective titles in recent weeks, Schultz against Austin Idol, Farris against The Mongolian Stomper, The Express versus Jimmy Golden and Tom Jones, and Ash against Roy Lee Welch and Robert Gibson.

Others wrestling in the area recently have been: Robert Fuller, Bob Armstrong, and Ted Oates.

Traveling to Texas, we next visit the N.W.A. Dallas located office. This area saw one title change since our last report. The Fabulous Freebirds (Terry Gordy & Michael Hayes) defeated King Kong Bundy & "Wild" Bill Irwin for the U.S. American Tag Team Title.

Other recognized champions are as follows: U.S. American Heavyweight Champion — Kevin Von Erich, Texas State Heavyweight Champion — David Von Erich, Brass Knucks Champion — Buggy McGraw, Mexican Brass Knucks Champion — Jose Lothario, All Asian Heavyweight Title — The Great Kabuki, managed by Gary Hart, All Asian Tag Team Champions — Kevin & David Von Erich. It is nearly impossible to list all the recent title matches that have taken place in this area, but all the champions listed above have defended their respective honors in the last month, often against each other.

Other wrestlers appearing in the Dallas area include: Gran Marcus II, Capt. Frank Dusek, Kerry Von Erich, Al Madril, The Spoiler, The Samoan, Buddy Roberts, The Dragon, Check Mate, Armond Hussian, Brian Adidas, "Killer" Tim Brooks, The Destroyer, Ken Mantell, Sal Olivarez, and midget stars Little Coco and Billy The Kid.

Next we travel to the N.W.A. Portland, Oregon booking

office headed by promoter Don Owen and Dutch Savage, who runs the closely affiliated Seattle, Washington office. Brett Sawyer is still the Pacific Northwest Heavyweight Champion, while Rip Oliver and The Assassin hold the regional tag team honors.

In different combinations Sawyer, Chris Adams, Steve Pardee, Billy Jack, and Terry Gibbs tried unsuccessfully for the tag team title. Sawyer later wrestled against former partner Gibbs, beating him in a loser leave the area match. Word has it that there is a new masked wrestler in the area calling himself "The Georgia Jaw Jacker," who looks and sounds suspiciously just like Terry.

Others recently appearing in area rings have been: Steve Pardee, Igor Volkoff, Mike Allen, Sheik Abdullah Hussian, Stan Stasiak, Dean Ho, Chris Colt, Ricky Martel, The Samoans (The Great Tito & Chief Tapu), T.G. Stone, Mike Miller, Tommy Rogers, and midget stars Little Tokyo, Tiny Tom, Lone Eagle, and Little Coco.

Another N.W.A. office in the same general region is located in Vancouver, B.C., Canada. Recognized champions are the same as our last report — Canadian Heavyweight Champion is Mr. Pro, and the tag team champions are Dean Ho and "Moondog" Ed Moretti. Ho and Moretti have been having a series of wild matches as of late against the combinations of Al Tomko & Grizzly Evans and Terry Adonis & Bruiser Costa. Others recently wrestling in the area have been: Eric Froelich, Bob Steele, Vern Siebert, "Bulldog" Bob Brown, Moose Morowski, Dr. Blood, and Ron Starr.

Another Canadian N.W.A. Office is located in Calgary, and is headed by Stu Hart. Recognized champions here have also stayed the same since our last report, Bret Hart is the North American Champion, Duke Myers and The Dynamite Kid (Tommy Billington) are the International Tag Team Champions, Davey Boy Smith is the World Mid Heavyweight Champion, and Bruce Hart is the Commonwealth Mid Heavyweight Champion.

According to a recent edition of "Body Press," this area's official program, both Bruce and Bret Hart recently made a trip to the Caribbean to defend their belts. Bret turned back Victor Jovica and Jose Rivera, while Bruce beat Ray Apollon and Caswell Martin. Other recent title action saw Bruce defeat Danny Davis in Canada, and Davey Boy Smith upset The Dynamite Kid.

Other wrestlers recently active in the area include: Leo Burk, Mr. Hito, Mike Shaw, Jim Neidhart, Kerry Brown, Ho Chi Lau, Laurent Soucie, Don Kolov, Scott Ferris, Great Gama, Keith Hart, Hubert Gallant, Mach Hayato, Mike Hammer, midget stars Little Beaver, Sonny Boy, Tiger Jackson, Sky Low Low, and lady wrestlers Wendi Richter, Joyce Grable, Judy Martin, and Velvet McIntyre.

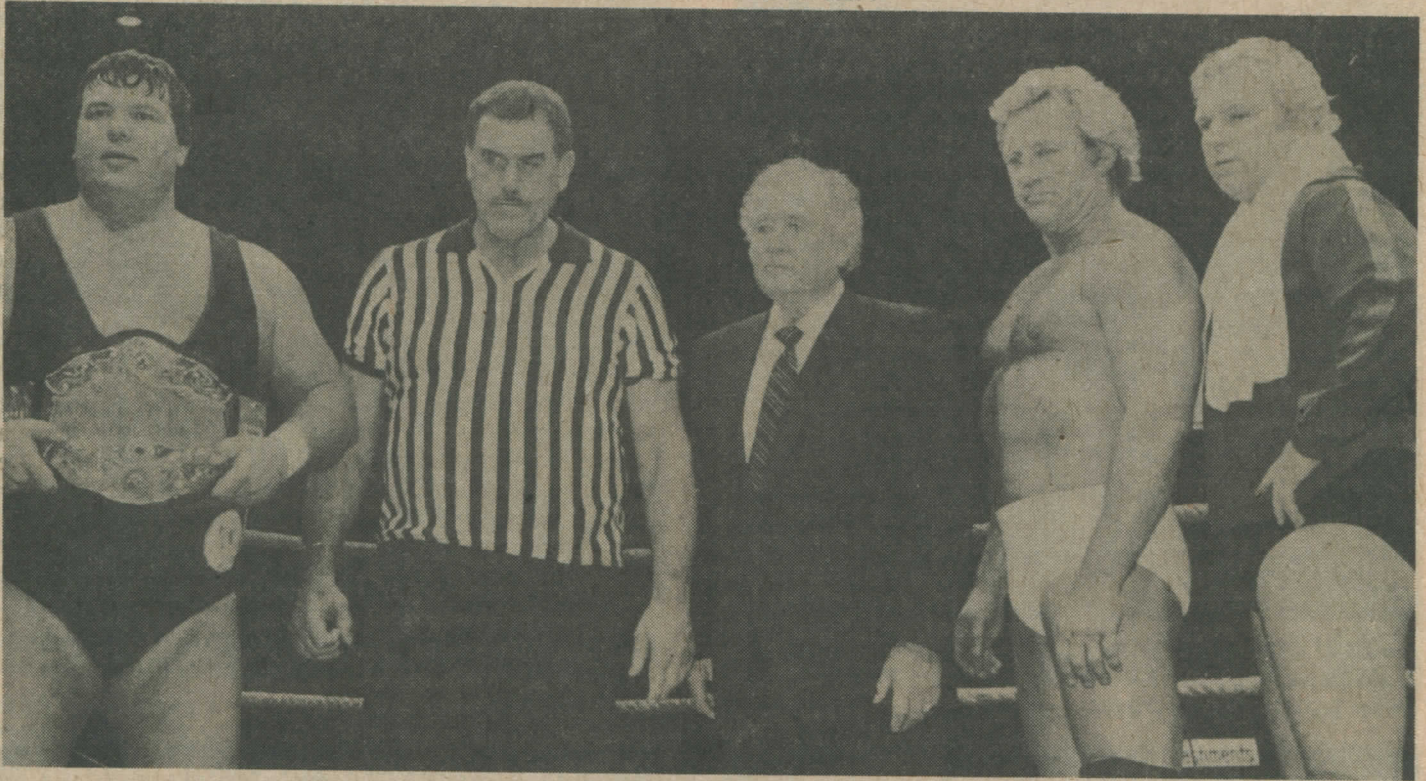
Even though we have a separate column on New Zealand wrestling found in this issue, I would like to conclude the N.W.A. section of Area Closeups by mentioning that Pat O'Connor ended the recent season as Commonwealth Heavyweight Champion by defeating Al Perez, who earlier had lost the title to King Kamaka, but came back to rewin in a rematch.

Mark Lewin and Steve Rickard ended up with the tag team title by beating Kamaka and General Hiro. For Lewin it was sweet revenge as he and Perez had dropped it to them in the first place. Ironically since originally Kamaka and Ox Baker were the kingpins.

Area Closeups
Continued on Page 61

THE NIGHT THAT NICK BOCKWINKEL REWON THE A.W.A. TITLE FROM OTTO WANZ

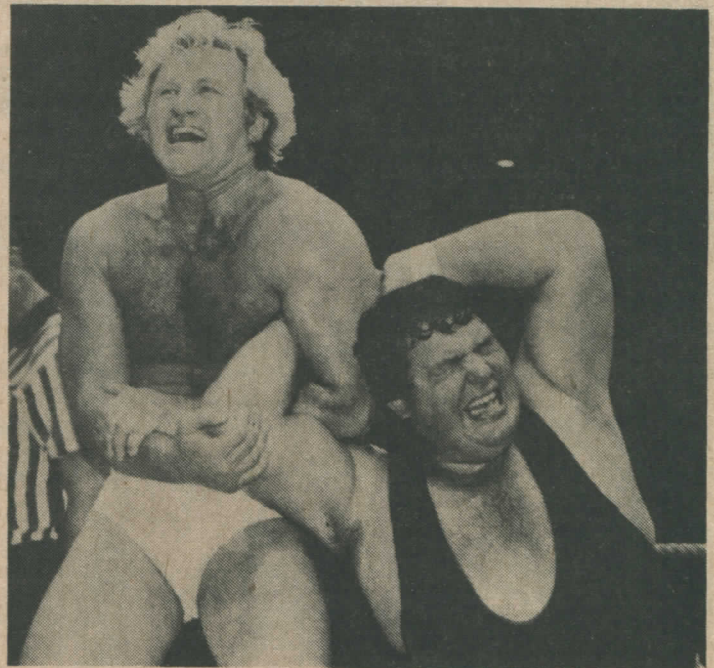
BY MIKE GRATCHNER



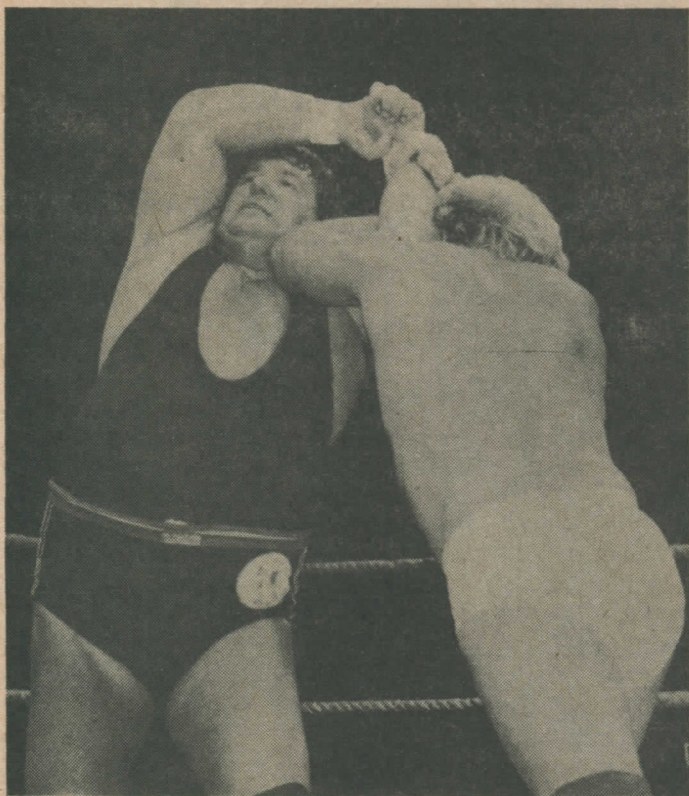
Prior to the A.W.A. World's Heavyweight Title battle held in the Chicago International Amphitheatre on Saturday, October 9th, 1982, Otto Wanz, special referee Leo "The Lion" Nomellini, A.W.A. President Stanley Blackburn, Nick Bockwinkel, and Bobby "The Brain" Heenan posed for our readers.



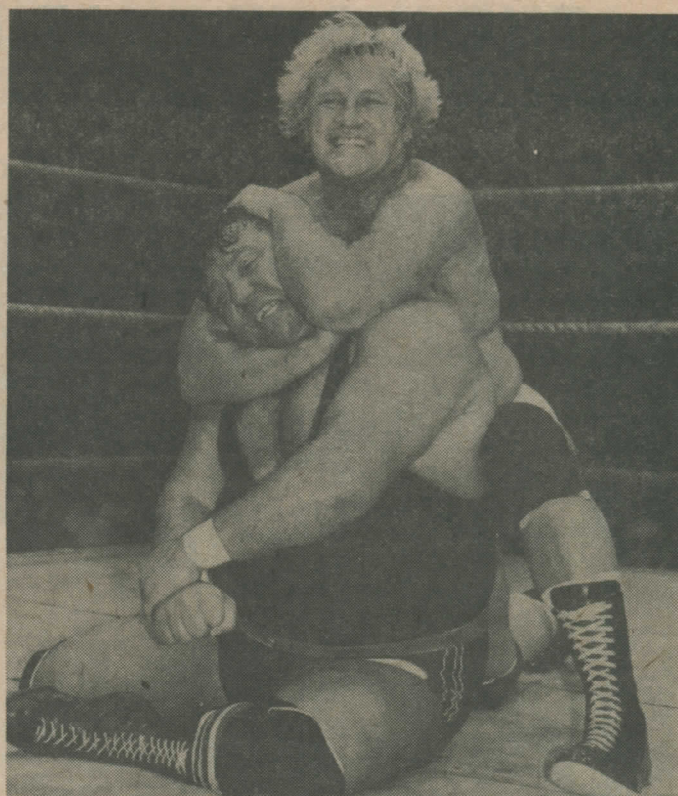
Wanz looked like he was on his way to another successful title defense when he armbarred the former champion.



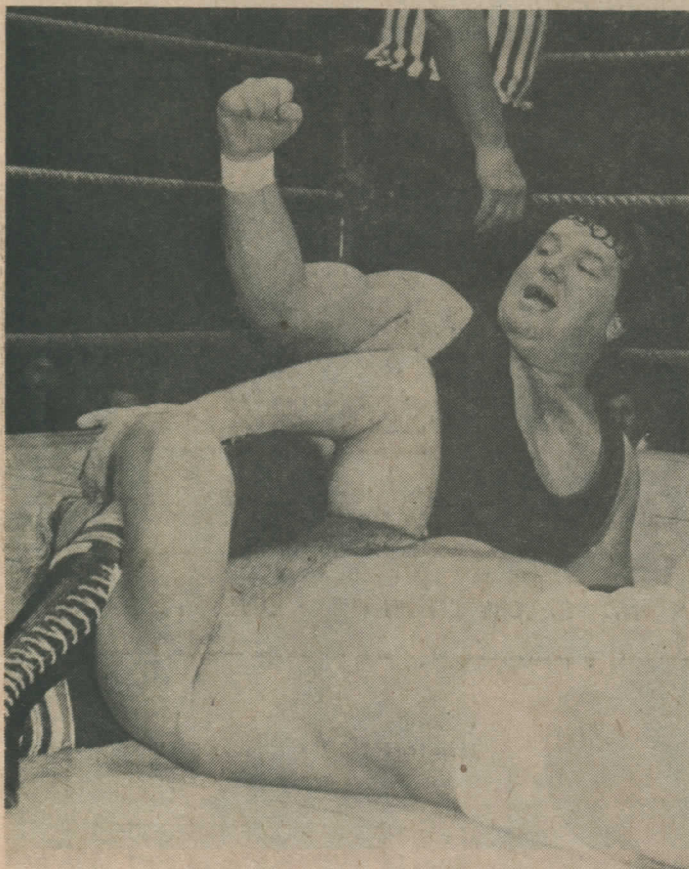
"The Lean Mean Machine" was able to reverse the hold and applied one of his own to the big man from Granz, Austria.



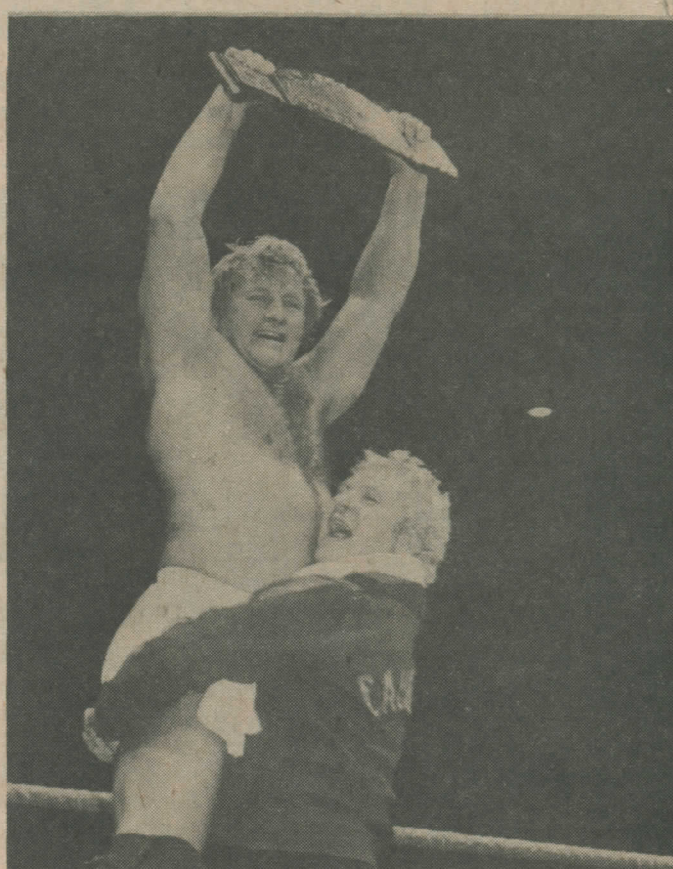
Much of their match was waged quite scientifically, and it was indeed a classic mat confrontation between two of the very best.



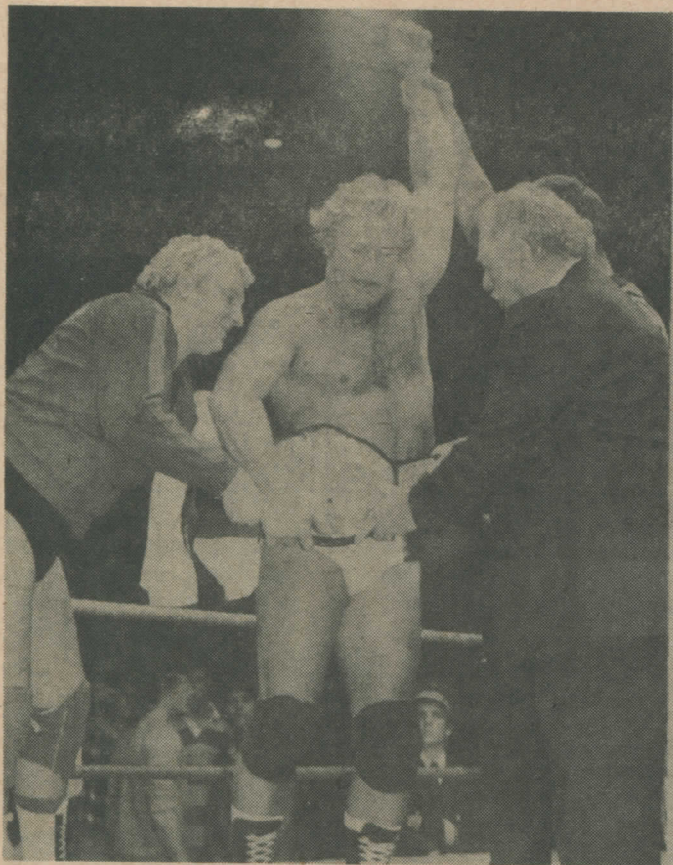
Bockwinkel's sleeper hold almost wore huge Wanz down and out, but Otto rallied and escaped this predicament.



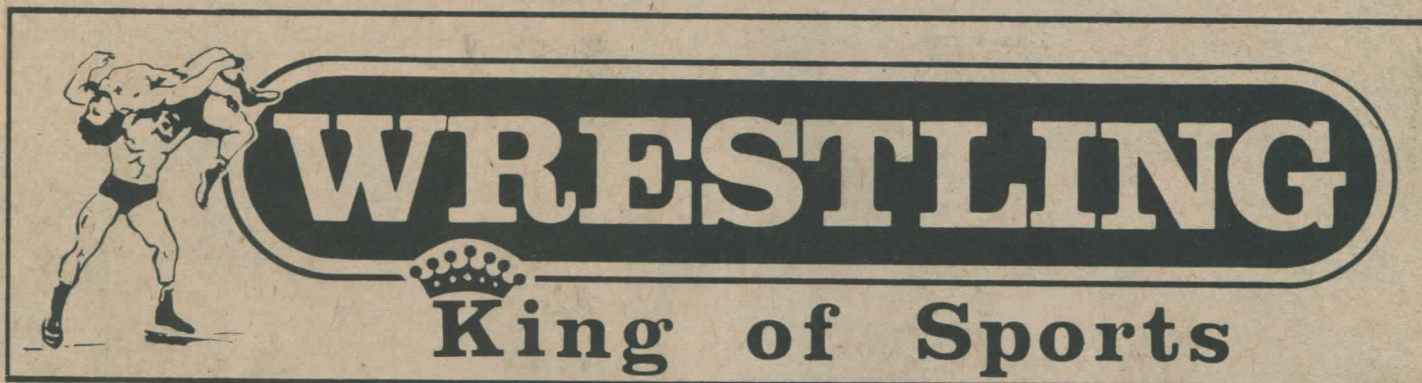
This very tight headscissors hold by Otto gave Bockwinkel something to think about also.
22 THE WRESTLING NEWS



Bockwinkel and manager Bobby "The Brain" Heenan really celebrated when Nick won the match and recaptured the coveted championship.



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The Strongbow Brothers Capture W.W.F. Tag Title Again

By Ron & Joe Cunliffe

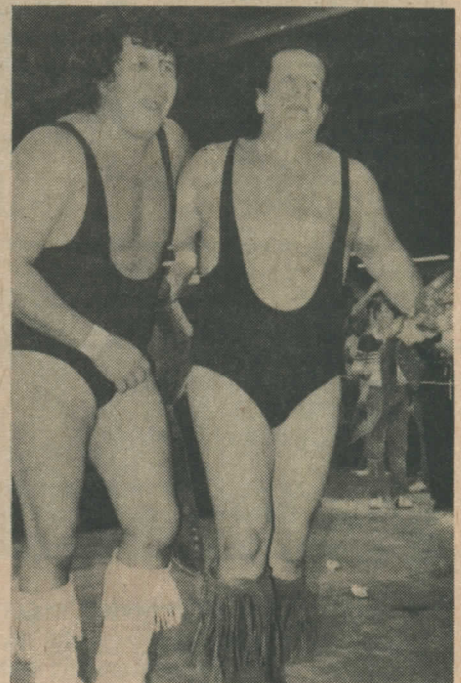
The Strongbows Brothers are now the W.W.F. Tag Team Champions. Doesn't that statement seem familiar? Well, indeed it is as the Strongbow Brothers did capture the W.W.F. Tag Belts in the month of September, only to lose them back to the former champs, Mr. Saito and Mr. Fuji a short while later.

Now The Strongbows were pitted against the Asians in a one-fall title match in Allentown on October 26, 1982. The match was long awaited as the last encounter saw the Japs using salt to blind their opponents to score a victory. This match had a feel of Dejavu, as the Japanese once again double teamed the Strongbows, they concen-

trated working on Jules. But the only difference was that Jules managed to tag Jay, and that was when it hit the fan. Jay exploded like a neutron bomb, battering Saito and Fuji like ping-pong balls across the ring. When the Strongbows took turns chopping at Saito, Fuji tried to enter the ring. The referee took Fuji to his corner while the Strongbows tossed Saito around like a rag doll. Then Jay surprised the crowd as he scored the vital three count on Saito to re-capture the WWF Heavyweight Tag Team Championships belts.

The Strongbows embraced each other in and out of the ring, placing the belts on the floor and dancing around them. They prayed on the floor in front of the belts, then Jay cried out "We brought em' back home, Jules, we brought em' back home!" Commentator Vince McMahon Jr. and Pat Patterson congratulated the new champs, as they made their way back to the dressing room.

The following week Interviewer Buddy Rogers interviewed the new champs, and they said they are ready for any challengers, including the Asians. They also defended their belts against Lou Albano and Ray Stevens, who left the ring in the first fall against the Indians. "The Wrestling News" will continue to follow their progress.



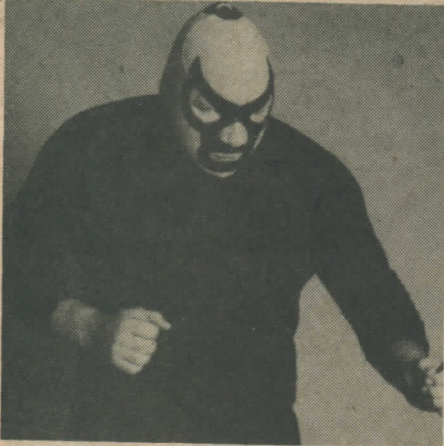


The History Of The Louisiana State Heavyweight Title

By James C. Melby

The leading promoters of the state of Louisiana decided in the Spring of 1978 to hold a one night tournament, with the winner being crowned the Louisiana State Heavyweight Champion. Baton Rouge was agreed upon as the site of the one night elimination tournament. The Assassin, one of pro wrestling's most successful and controversial competitors, won the tournament on April 27th, 1978 to become the first Louisiana State Heavyweight Champion.

The Assassin ruled the state's rings, until he in turn was upended by hard hitting Jose Lothario in a title match held on September 20th of the same year, in Monroe, Louisiana.



The Assassin

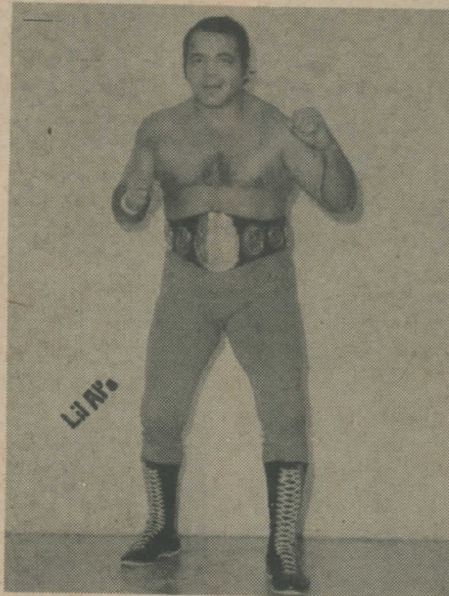
Jose's title reign was a very short one as he was beaten by The Assassin in a rematch held at the T.V. tapings for the area in Shreveport on October 14th, 1978.

On Christmas night on a big card held in the New Orleans Superdome, Jerry Stubbs made the entire wrestling world sit up and take notice when he upset The Assassin for the coveted title and belt.

The Superdome was the site of Stubb's Waterloo also. On April 21st, 1979 Mike George solidly beat Jerry to take the title away.

On September 5th, 1979 George met defeat at the hands of another wrestler named Mike, "Iron" Mike Sharpe. That match was held in Baton Rouge.

Sharpe retained the crown for the rest of the year, but was edged out of

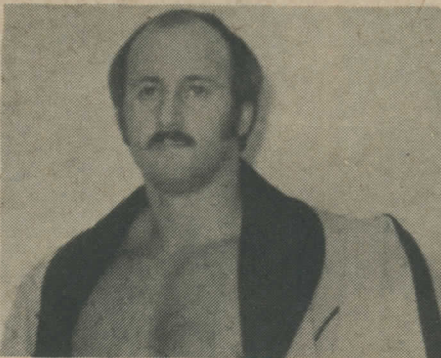


Jose Lothario

the top spot by losing a match to Ernie "Cat" Ladd on January 18th, 1980 in Shreveport.

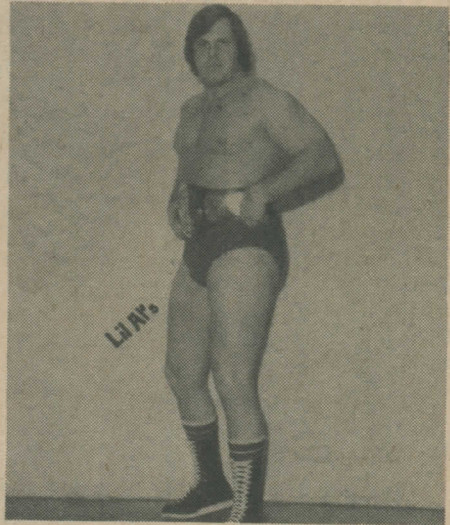
1980 saw the entrance of a number of wrestlers who were destined to change the face of Mid South Wrestling Association ratings for years to come. New Orleans fans were the first to realize the greatness of The Junkyard Dog, when they saw him wrestle away the Louisiana State Heavyweight Championship from Ernie Ladd.

JYD wasn't without his troubles either. The Fabulous Freebirds (Terry Gordy, Michael Hayes, and Buddy Roberts), by this time were engaging The Dog in a bitter feud. It was a low point in JYD's career he not only lost the title to Gordy, but also almost lost



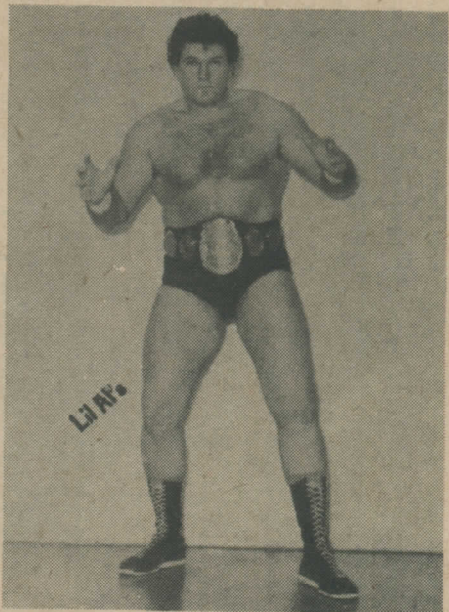
Jerry Stubbs

his sight completely as a result of an attack by The Freebirds. JYD later gained revenge, and as a result of injuries to Gordy during their feud, the title was declared vacant.



Mike George

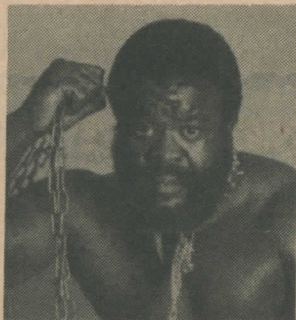
Ken Mantell, former N.W.A. World's Junior Heavyweight Champion, won an elimination tournament to become the fourth man to wear the title belt during 1980. The problem was that Mantell was dividing his time between wrestling and looking after his extensive oil business.



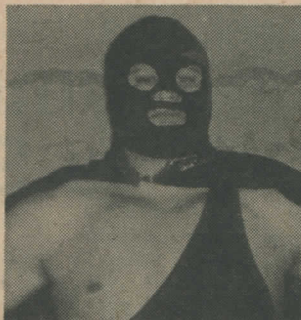
"Iron" Mike Sharpe



Ernie "Cat" Ladd



The Junkyard Dog

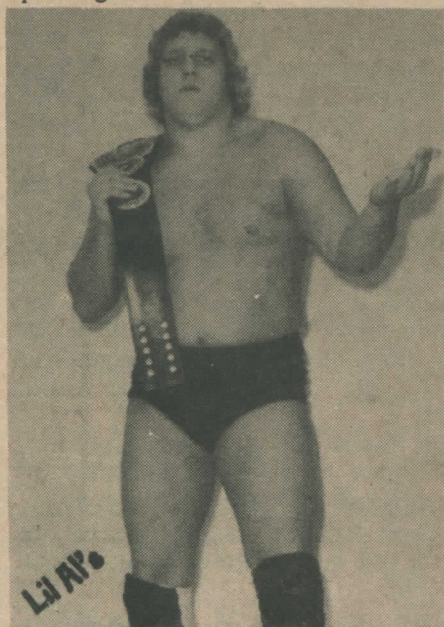


The Super Destroyer

He authorized to have Johnny Mantell fill-in for him for a number of matches. When Johnny dropped a clear-cut decision to take Jake "The Snake" Roberts late in 1980, Ken protested that the title couldn't change hands. The championship committee of the Mid South Wrestling Association ruled that since Ken was skipping out of his contracted matches and putting in his brother as an unauthorized substitute, the decision would stand, and Jake Roberts finished off the year as the Louisiana kingpin.

Ernie Ladd became the state's champion for a second time when he defeated Roberts in Shreveport on January 16th, 1981. His victory was a very tarnished one though as video tape of the match revealed that while the referee was temporarily out of commission, The Super Destroyer interfered on Ladd's behalf, and helped him to gain the victory.

In another Shreveport match, this one taped for the syndicated Mid South Wrestling T.V. program, Jim Garvin proved that a good little man can indeed defeat a good big man, by upsetting Ladd.



Terry Gordy

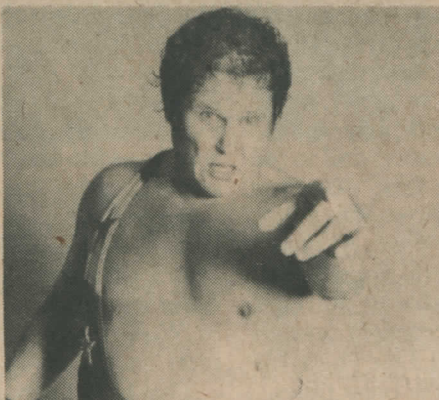
But on May 1st The Super Destroyer, with a little aid from his manager, Frank Dusek, took the title in turn from Garvin. S.D. looked invincible until he met a newcomer on the scene by the name of Bob Roop. The former U.S. Olympic wrestling team member, suplexed The Super Destroyer into defeat, while making his



Johnny & Ken Mantell

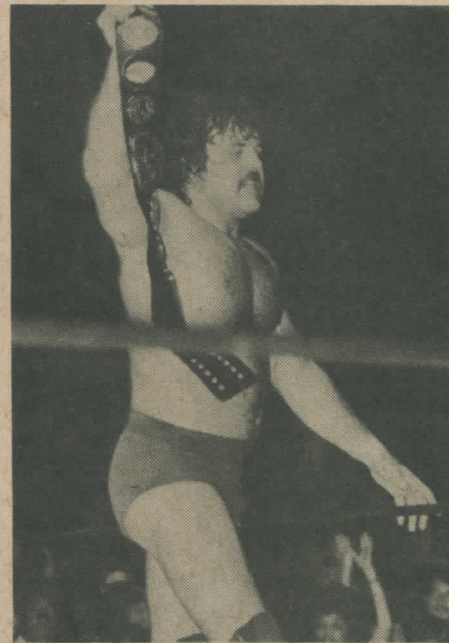
Mid South Wrestling T.V. debut. Even Dusek confessed after that match, that he and S.D. knew of Roop's sterling reputation, but made the mistake of taking the match too lightly.

Another Shreveport T.V. match and another manager proved to be the downfall in Roop's title reign. During a title match against The Great Kabuki, "Playboy" Gary Hart interfered on behalf of his man when the referee accidentally got knocked out. Ted DiBiase, who was Roop's frequent tag team partner at the time, also jumped into the ring to try and prevent



Bob Roop

the chair wielding Hart from doing some real damage. In the wild skirmish that followed Roop slipped and landed on the steel ringside chair, stunning himself, and being pinned as a result. Even though DiBiase was acting in good faith, Roop never forgave him, and blamed him entirely for the loss of the match and the title. To this day they are still feuding, and Ted and Bob remain the bitterest of enemies.



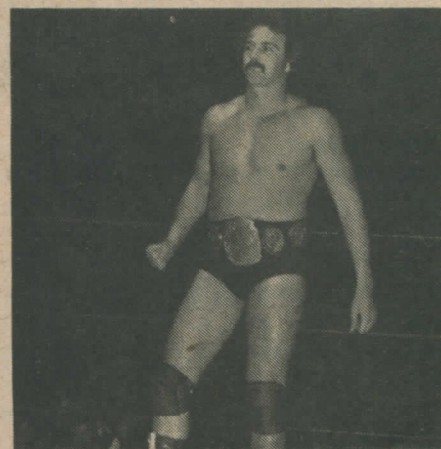
Jim Garvin

The Junkyard Dog, by now fully recovered from all injuries, looked awesome when he obliterated Kabuki in New Orleans on December 7th, 1981 to begin his second reign as Louisiana State Heavyweight Champion.

No one even came close to grappling away the belt from JYD's vice-like grip. He finally vacated the championship, when he defeated Bob Roop for

Louisiana State Heavyweight Title

(Continued on Page 29)

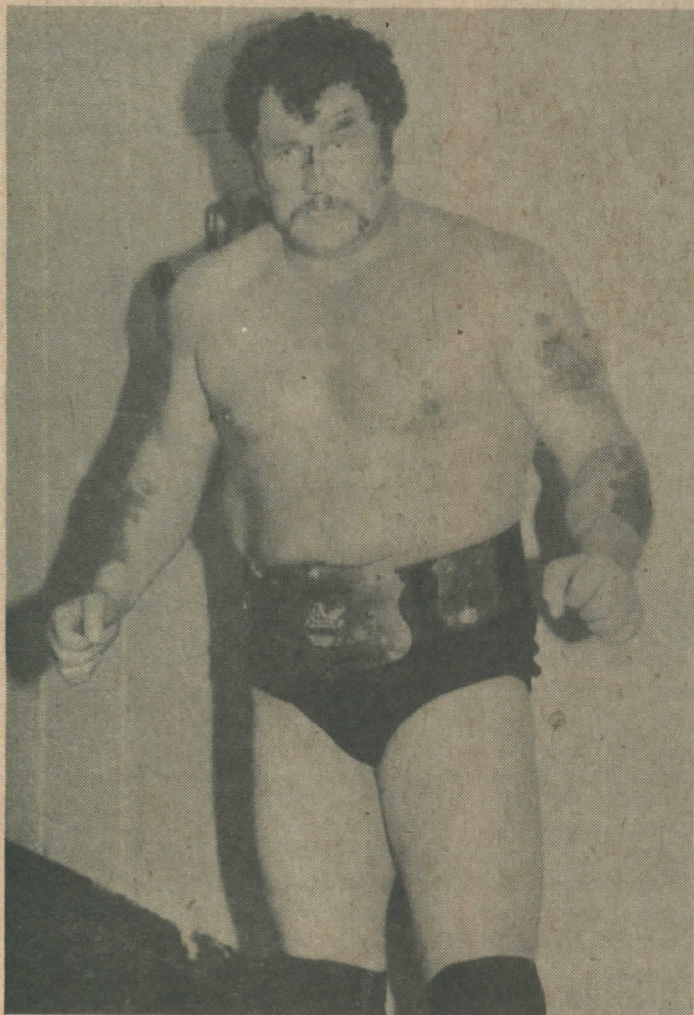


Jake "The Snake" Roberts

Flair may still be N.W.A. king, but...

Harley Race Becomes Heavyweight Champion for a Seventh Time

By John D. Lawson



For much of the last decade, Kansas City's Harley Race was the World Heavyweight champion of the National Wrestling Alliance. Being champion of this organization means that this wrestler may call himself the best in the sport. When Race held that championship, he was always the first to remind opponents, fans, and commentators of the fact that he indeed had the gold belt to back up that claim. However, in the summer of 1981, Dusty Rhodes took the crown from Harley, making him a six-time ex-champion of the N.W.A.

Harley Race tried but was never able to beat Rhodes for the belt. And, even though he was still hot on Rhodes' trail to the day that Dusty lost the belt, it was "Nature Boy" Ric Flair who took the belt from the waist of Rhodes. From that point, Harley began chasing after title matches with Flair. Although he's come very close to taking the belt on several occasions all across the United States, Race has been unable to pin Flair and become the N.W.A. king for an unprecedented seventh time — a feat that would move Race around Lou Thesz for the honor of being the N.W.A. title holder the most times.

In February of 1982, Harley Race came to Indianapolis, Indiana, in search of another title. Race wanted the World Wrestling Association Heavyweight Championship to add to the list of titles he worn, and, because of his tremendous international reputation, and six N.W.A. title reigns, the W.W.A. gave him a title shot against champion Bobo Brazil. Although Harley was not, and is not, giving up hopes of dethroning Flair, obtaining the W.W.A. title would not hurt his chances of remaining in the limelight.

Many Indianapolis fans were not very familiar with Race, and, when he made his initial debut there, against Max Blue, many fans cheered him because of the way he executed such exciting holds as the side salto, the vertical suplex, and the diving head butt. The cheers turned into boos immediately after that bout when Race announced that he was here to show the people that **he** is the greatest wrestler in the world. Race also said, "I will destroy your legend of Dick The Bruiser. Bruiser may be tough, Snyder may be good, Brazil may be the champion, and Huber may be wonderful, but the point of the matter is this: I am better." Many others have come to the area with similar claims but all have eventually been run out of the territory. Somehow, though, Race displayed more confidence in his remarks than anyone else has been able to.

On February 13, Bobo Brazil put his W.W.A. title on the line against his toughest challenger to date, Harley Race. The bout was very tough and filled with controversy. Race discovered that his head butts on Bobo would not have the same effect as they have on "normal" opponents because Brazil is the king of the coco butt. Race also tried to snag Bobo in a suplex early in the bout, but the 301 pounder from Benton Harbor, Michigan, freed himself in mid-air and landed on Race, who barely escaped being pinned.

After taking their battle to the ring apron, the two heavyweights began throwing wild punches. Bobo went for a headbutt from the apron after Race entered the ring once again, but the referee was the recipient when Harley dodged the move.

Bobo went back into the ring to check on the ref's condition but when his back was turned, Race let him have it. Harley then positioned Bobo for an illegal hold in Indiana — the piledriver — and administered what is probably the most vicious hold ever used. Since the referee was nearly unconscious he did not see the infraction. When he came to, he discovered Race covering Brazil and made the three count. He then handed the W.W.A. title to Race, who then began celebrating his latest win.

Seconds later, a second referee was in the ring explaining what had happened. He insisted that Race be disqualified for taking advantage of the situation and using the illegal move. After several minutes of discussion, it was announced that the W.W.A. would uphold the title belt until the two men could meet once again in a rematch.

That bout did not take place until April 24, in Indianapolis, at the Market Square Arena — the largest sports complex in

the state of Indiana. In addition to being a bout to decide the champion, the W.W.A. made the encounter a two-out-of-three fall bout with a one hour time limit.

At the bell, the two men tore into one another. Race used an atomic drop that had little effect on Bobo, who used his own atomic drop.

After about 12 minutes, Race decked Brazil by injuring his mid-section. With Bobo down, Harley kneedropped him across the chest. Then, perching himself on the top rope, Race launched a diving headbutt that scored bit. Harley then gave Brazil a neckbreaker and won the first fall.

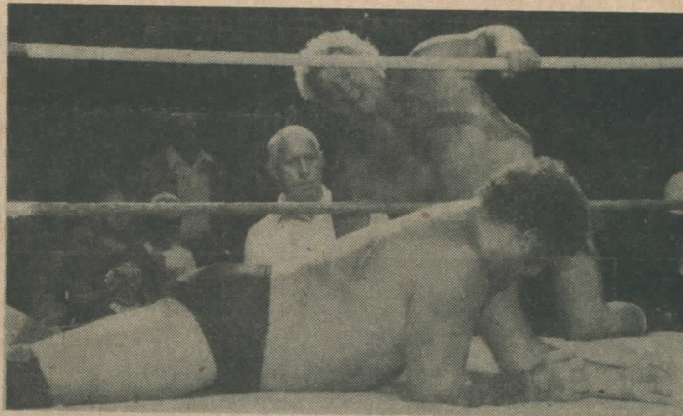
For the second fall, Race tried to repeat what he had done in the first. After only a few minutes, Harley again went to the ropes. But this time, Bobo was ready. He got to his feet and tossed Race from the top strand. Bobo then used one of his pattered coco butts and after a three count, the score was evened.

During the third fall, the action got gruesome. When Bobo began to get the advantage, Race left the ring. Brazil followed him right out to pursue his challenger. Upon catching him, Brazil rammed Race's head into the steel turnpost. The blow opened a cut on Harley's forehead and he fell to the floor. As the referee began counting him out, Race slowly made his way back to the ring for the dramatic finish.

As soon as Race reached the apron, Bobo grabbed him. Brazil made a mistake which cost him the match. Instead of waiting for Harley to enter the ring on his own, he decided to pull him over the top rope with a full nelson. Race, being the opportunist that he is, used his quick-thinking mind to win the match. Just as he was going back into the ring, he kicked off the top rope with both feet. The force sent both Race and Brazil crashing to the mat.

Since each man's shoulders were on the mat, the referee began a three count on Bobo, who was on the bottom, as well as Race, who was on top but had his chest covered by Bobo's arms. At two, Race barely lifted his left shoulder from the mat to beat the count. Brazil, however, was not as fortunate and the three count was completed.

The fans booed with disapproval while Race received the gold championship belt. Harley Race had now shown the



Dick The Bruiser over the years has not only battled Harley Race fiercely for the W.W.A. Title, but also has fought him many times in bouts with the N.W.A. Championship and Missouri State crown riding on the outcome.

wrestling world that he is still capable of winning major championships. This victory just may be all he'll need to topple Ric Flair and recapture the N.W.A. title.

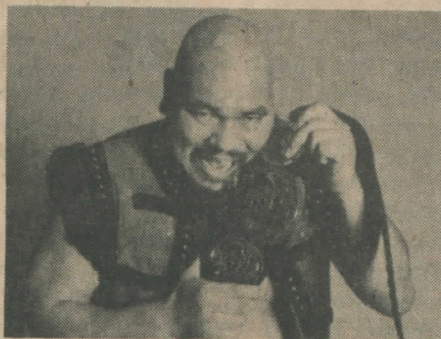
While it is unusual for a wrestler to ever win another heavyweight championship after holding the A.W.A., N.W.A., W.W.F., or W.W.A. title, Harley Race is not the first man to have done so. Buddy Rogers was the N.W.A. champ and later the title holder in the W.W.F. Ivan Koloff, after losing the W.W.F. crown, won the W.W.A. championship (several years later.) Gene Kiniski held the W.W.A. title in 1965. After losing that belt to Bruiser in December of that year, Kiniski won the N.W.A. title the following month. Gene also held the A.W.A. belt in the early days of the American Wrestling Association, making him a three-time champion. Thus, Harley Race joins an elite class, although one must admit that he was already in an elite class before his latest title triumph. Should Harley Race win the National Wrestling Alliance World Heavyweight championship once again, he may go down in wrestling history as being the greatest of all time.

Louisiana State Heavyweight Title Continued from Page 27

the more prestigious North American Heavyweight Championship on June 21st, 1982. He really had no choice as Mid South Wrestling Association President Charlie Leigh had earlier made a ruling that whoever held the North American belt, couldn't hold any of the other recognized singles' titles, to avoid a conflict of interest when it came to making title defenses.

Unfortunately for The Dog he was defeated by Ted DiBiase in a highly controversial match a couple of days later for the North American Title, so in a matter of days he lost both belts.

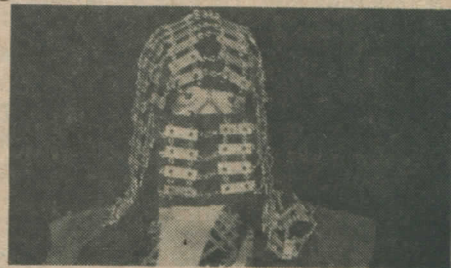
Promoters once more decided to hold an elimination tournament, and in this one held in Baton Rouge, "General" Scandor Akbar guided Killer Khan thru the competition to



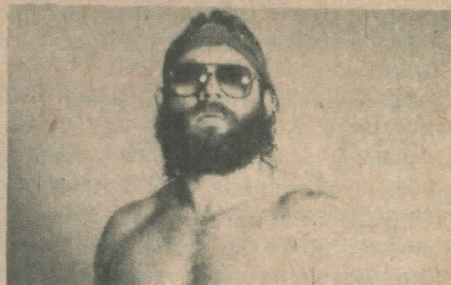
Killer Khan

take the title.

Another name out of the title's past history, "Iron" Mike Sharpe, came along and beat Khan for the championship in a T.V. bout taped in Shreveport. Sharpe's reign was ended in the same ring when he was bested by rugged "Hacksaw" Jim Duggan.



The Great Kabuki



"Hacksaw" Jim Duggan

"Rowdy" Roddy Piper — A Smokin' and A Pokin'

By Kate Mast & Linda Churchill

RP: My first match was against a guy named Larry "the Ax" Hennig, 310 pounds. I was 16 years old and weighed 175 pounds, and on that particular night I gained a record. It was in Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, and I have a record there for the shortest match in the history of the Winnipeg arena. It went 10 seconds and he beat me! I was definitely over-matched! From there on, my career went right on down the road. I fought one tough guy after another. I got beat up a lot. I got hurt a lot. I got beat up so much, and I had so many promoters that threw me in there to the wolves, after a while it just didn't matter. All of a sudden I just started to say I don't care about anybody else. I just care about myself. I had a big mouth from then on. I just let them all know how I felt. I had to take care of myself. Otherwise, they're gonna kill me!

KL: How did you get interested in being a pro wrestler?

RP: I was an amateur boxer. I won the Golden Gloves. I was about 14 or 15 at that time, and my purpose then was to turn pro as a boxer. I broke my hand. When I broke my hand, I wanted to stay in shape for boxing, so I began amateur wrestling as a means of staying in shape, and it turned out I had a knack for it. I won a lot of championships. My hand healed and I just never went back to boxing.

KL: Has your boxing background helped you in the ring?

RP: The best thing it's done is given me a speed edge that they don't have. I'm twice as fast as anybody that's in there. And my agility is what I got from my boxing background, and it helps alot.

KL: Who trained you?

RP: I started with Verne Gagne and Al Tomko. But the guy who trained me most was a fellow by the name of George Gordienko, who was a tough old guy. And another fellow named Mad Dog Vachon. Later on, after he trained me, I didn't see him for a year and a half. I was in Dallas and I ended up fighting him. He beat me so bad I couldn't walk for a week! Oh boy! He's a rough one!

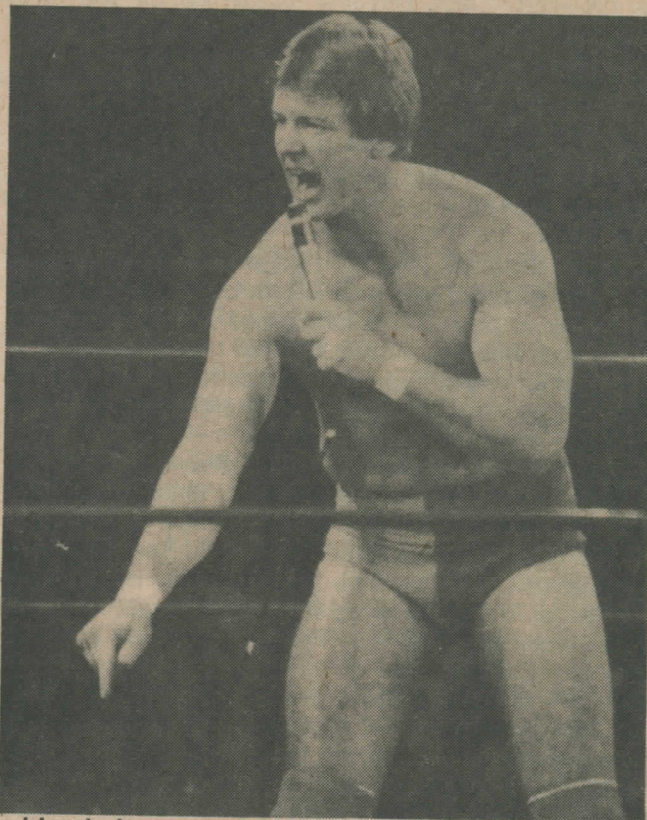
KL: Did you start out wrestling by the rules?

RP: I started out just wrestling. It didn't matter. They just cheered for me because I was young, I don't know why. The first time they ever booed me was in Los Angeles.

KL: Where were you in the five years between Winnipeg and L.A.?

RP: You want every night? Anyplace I could get a fight. Bouts wherever I could get them. I'll tell you what, you name states and I'll tell you if I fought there. I had to eat! I was starving to death, running down the street and they offered me ten bucks and I said, "I'll fight!" I ate! Eating! Eating! Eating!"

1971 through 1975 he wrestled from Dallas, Texas to Halifax, Nova Scotia. During this time he was growing in size and gaining in experience. This, combined with his natural aggressiveness and talent, paid off when he won the Canadian Championship at 18 and twice won the Light Heavyweight Championship of the World. The first time he was only 19, making him the youngest man to ever hold this prestigious title.



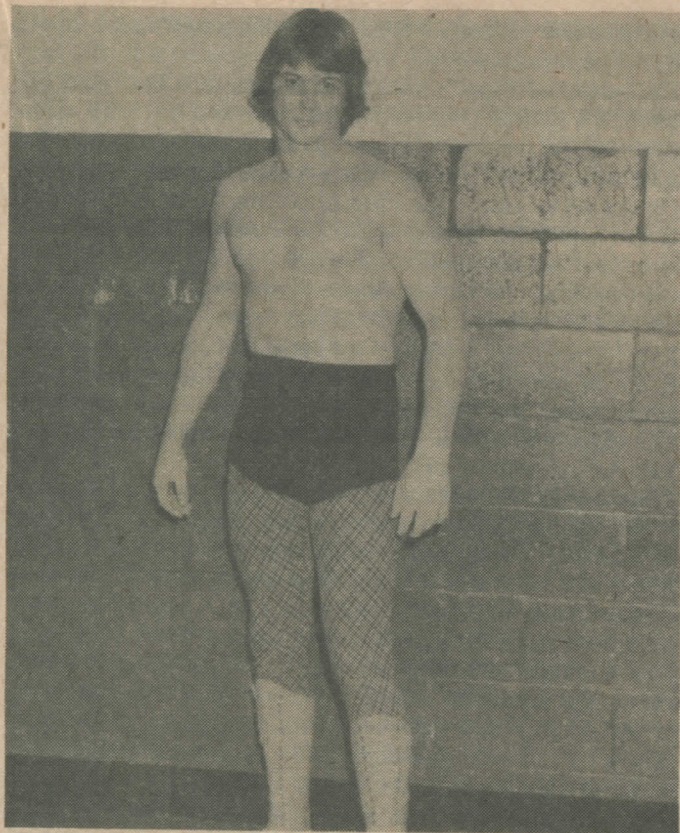
Besides being one of pro wrestling's top competitors, Roddy Piper is known far and wide for his sharp tongue when it comes to using a microphone. He tries to get "Playboy" Buddy Rose's goat with a colorful barrage of insults.

By the time he arrived in L.A. in the mid seventies, he weighed 225 and called himself the "Lean Mean Machine." Originally from Glasgow, Scotland and extremely proud of his heritage, he wore his kilts into the ring and treated the fans to a bagpipe solo before each of his matches. At first the California fans didn't know what to make of him, but soon decided that they didn't like him a lot, when he began to act as a manager and brought to the area such villains as the Hangman, Crusher Verdue, El Tigre, Tank Patton and Butcher Vachon. He teamed with some of his clients and held the Americas Tag Team Championship several times.

By the end of 1976, Piper was so hated that a \$1500 bounty was offered to anyone who could get Roddy carried out on a stretcher.

During the next two years, Piper held every major area title in California, including the Americas Heavyweight title twice, the TV title, and the Jules Strongbow Scientific Wrestling Trophy twice. It was this Scientific Trophy that started Piper's highly publicized feud with the Guerrero family, most particularly Chavo.

RP: The reason Chavo Guerrero and I got into a feud was that I had a scientific match with him (for the Strongbow

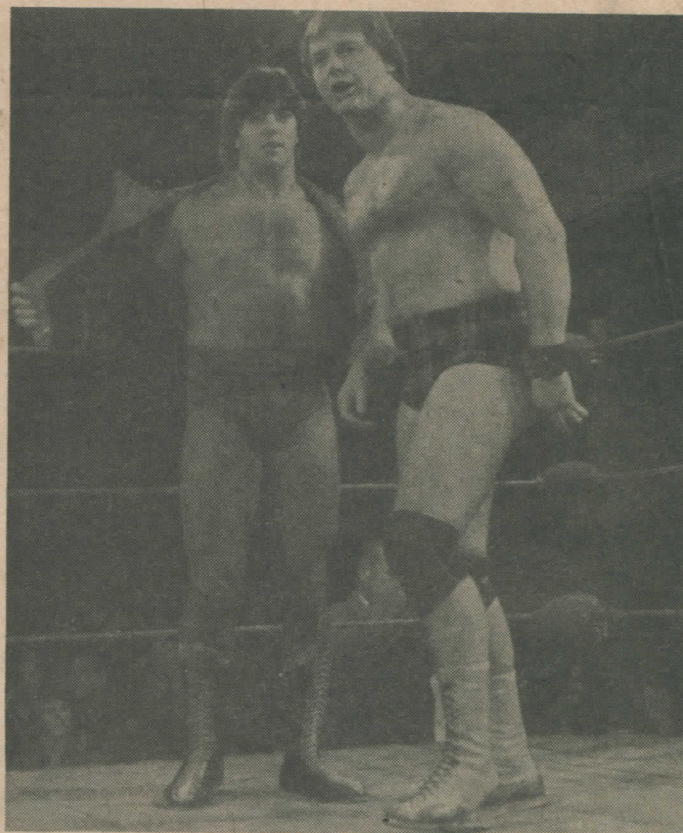


Piper was only about seventeen when this photo was snapped, around the time he first entered the pro wrestling ranks. Roddy refers to it as "That cute little photo."

Trophy) and he had his father in the corner. The people didn't hear this, they weren't listening. His father was shouting insults at me. The match had been going on for 20 minutes at this time, and he had been shouting insults at me. When Chavo would kick out, he would say things like, "see, I told you he couldn't pin you." I never had no daddy in my corner ever since I started and here he is, this sucker, and he's got his dad in his corner. He shouldn't have been there in the first place. I reached out and I gave him a good one, I slapped him right across the face. That shut him up and, meanwhile Chavo got hot! That's kinda what started it all. Bad start there, because I hit his father. I can understand his anger in me hitting his father, I can understand that. But the people, they were all for Chavo. He's a poor little baby! I'm a better wrestler than he is. I have no love for him at all!"

While in San Francisco, Roddy had a few wild and wooly run ins with the legendary "Moondog" Lonnie Mayne. "Moondog" was known, not only for being one of the toughest grapplers ever, but also for his outlandish behavior. He would howl like a wolf and, during interviews, liked to eat light bulbs and live goldfish. In 1977, Roddy giggled, gibbered and nearly tossed his cookies during this TV interview.

RP: "Moondog" Mayne has been trying to psyche me out! "Moondog" Mayne eats live goldfish! Anything you can do, "Moondog" Mayne, I can do. I have some goldfish here, don't I. Poor little goldfish! Come here little goldfish! You think that you're gonna scare me? This is just stupid scare tactics, "Moondog" Mayne! Just because you can eat goldfish and glass, I just think you're an idiot! Anybody could eat a little tiny goldfish! Come here you little devil!" (Puts one in his mouth) Mmmmmmm! AGHH! (Spits it out)



Speaking of Ricky Martel "He was the best tag team partner that I ever had."

AGHH! "Moondog," you're an idiot! You think you're so dang tough, well I think you're an idiot! It's gonna be like the matador and the bull, "Moondog!" You're gonna charge in all your glory and all I'm gonna do is, "Ole' Moondog! Ole' Moondog!" until you're down, down and beaten and then I'm gonna start a smokin and a pokin!"

Lonnie and Roddy later became close friends and held the Americas Tag Team Belts together in LA. At the end of 1977, Piper and Mayne tied for the Villain of the Year Award, and when Chavo was presented with an expensive watch for being Wrestler of the Year, they stole it and destroyed it.

RP: (on Lonnie Mayne) Oh boy! He was a dandy! He was one of the tough ones. He was a good one. He was a higher caliber than I am, not only in athletic competition, but in spirit and in heart. I fought him. I tagged with him and he was one of them guys that wouldn't quit. You had to kill him to beat him. That's why I have a lot of respect for him. When he came out there he gave it his best shot. Like he said, "I give it my best shot, or I don't even shoot!" That's the way he was. I loved him. I hope he's resting happily in Heaven, cause he was a good one!"

In the summer of 1978, Roddy Piper, plus kilts and bagpipes appeared in the Pacific Northwest. He spent a lot of time forcing his bagpipe music on the unappreciative fans, and haranging them in high speed, high pitched, blithering interviews about how lucky they were to have him in the area. He soon teamed with "Killer" Tim Brooks, who Piper called "Brooksey," and they took the Pacific Northwest Tag Team belts from Lord Jonathan Boyd and Dutch Savage. The fans wondered about the pair's sanity, but had to admit their effectiveness in the ring as they rode roughshod over all the fan

favorites. Piper also took the Heavyweight Championship from Boyd, but lost it to Stan Stasiak in June, 1979.

In April of 1979, Piper and Brooks teamed with "Playboy" Buddy Rose and Easy Ed Wiskoski for an eight man tag match. Brooks lost the deciding fall and an enraged Rose and Wiskoski attacked him, putting him on the injured list.

Piper, taking exception to his "Brooksey" being hurt, entered into a vicious feud with the "Playboy" (Wrestling News #65). Suddenly, Roddy found himself cheered by the fans that had so recently hated him, although neither his style nor his attitude had changed.

RP: Before, people would come up and spit on me and so I'd knock them down. Now people ask for autographs, so I sign their autographs. If they would have run up and asked for an autograph in the first place, I'd have signed their autograph. If they come up to me and are mean, I'm mean back. If they're nice to me, I'm nice back. So I haven't changed my attitude at all!"

In the course of this all out war, Piper's bagpipes were destroyed and his kilts were burned by Rose. He was strangled with a coat hanger and nearly lost an eye when Buddy stabbed a scissors into it. Roddy had to leave the area for a while to have the damage to his eye repaired surgically.

After his recuperation and before his return to the Northwest, Roddy wrestled a few times in Pennsylvania and made an appearance at Madison Square Garden.

Back in the Northwest in October of 1979, Piper resumed his feud with Buddy Rose. He found Rose backed by his Army, the Shepherders. Piper found a friend in the very popular Rick Martel, and together they kept the Army under control and on March 29, 1980 they won the Tag Team belts from the Shepherders. They also captured the Canadian Tag Team Championship.

When Martel lost a "loser leave town" match to Rose in August, Piper lost "the best tag partner I've ever had!"

The feud continued with Lumberjack matches, No DQ matches, Cage matches and Hair matches (Piper won). Finally, a Loser Leave Town match was signed for Sept. 16 and, though much blood was shed and at one point both combatants were doused with water to revive them, there was no winner. It was a time limit draw!

The match was rescheduled for Sept. 20, and the fans were horrified and heartbroken when Roddy had to leave the Northwest.

The Mid Atlantic area is home base for such wrestling greats as Wahoo McDaniel, Johnny Weaver, Paul Jones, Ole and Gene Anderson, Ricky Steamboat, Jay Youngblood and Ric Flair. Roddy Piper burst into this hotbed of wrestling, kilts flying and bagpipes blaring. He decided that the quickest way to the top is not fighting your way through the pack, but to leapfrog over the pack and simply proclaim yourself above it. Now, you have to be prepared to back up your self-proclamation and Piper did just that when, on November 1, 1980, he won the Mid Atlantic TV title in a tournament, beating Paul Jones in the finals. He successfully defended the TV belt against all comers.

On January 27, 1981, Piper won the United States Heavyweight Championship from "Nature Boy" Ric Flair.

KL: Ric Flair says that you used a foreign object to win the US belt, what do you say?

RP: (glaring) I say...I won.

KL: Oh. After winning the US belt you gave Flair the TV belt in a box like a present, you wrote and played a tune on your bagpipes for Ric called Loser's Lament, and you wore a

shirt that read "I Scare Flair," why? To gloat?

RP: Just intimidation.

The power of Piper's image, his stature at 6'1½" and 232 pounds, his scathing wit, self confidence and intensity, combined with the power of his performance in the ring adds up to a lot of intimidation that he is a master at using effectively.

On the other hand, Ric Flair is not one to be intimidated and he kept after Piper with his bulldog determination. Rumor had it that Roddy offered a bounty to anyone who could take Flair out of wrestling and that Ivan Koloff tried to collect it. We asked Piper about this.

RP: I didn't put a bounty on Flair, not that I remember. Not me, it had nothing to do with me. I put a bounty on Wahoo, didn't put one on Flair.

KL: What started the feud with Wahoo McDaniel?

RP: Just pissed me off!

Piper had successfully defended his US belt for seven months, but the end of August 1981 saw him lose it to McDaniel.

KL: So you put a bounty on Wahoo? How much?

RP: Yeah, first it was three (thousand), then it was five, and then it was ten, then it ended.

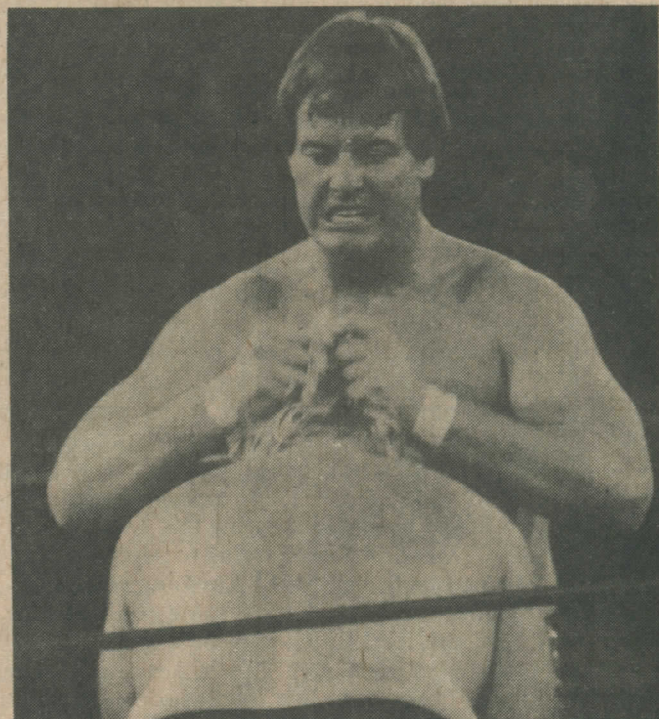
KL: Who came in to collect the bounty?

RP: Abdullah the Butcher, Spanky for short.

Piper and Abdullah attacked Wahoo on TV and the Butcher carved up McDaniel's head with a knife. Because the Indian star was injured so badly that he couldn't defend the US belt, it was put up in a tournament, which Roddy was not allowed to enter, and won by Sgt. Slaughter. Abdullah the Butcher was banned from the Mid Atlantic area because of his barbaric, sadistic behavior.

Roddy next set his sights on the Mid Atlantic Heavyweight Championship held by Ricky Steamboat. Piper won the belt on November 1, 1981, and, never one to run from a fight, gave Ricky several tries at winning it back.

RP: You called it a feud, it wasn't a feud. He was just fighting me to try to get a belt back. It had nothing to do with



Over the years Piper has had a long running torrid feud going with "Playboy" Buddy Rose, here he pulls his rival back to his feet by grabbing his blond locks.

a feud. I didn't go around and try to run him over in an alley!

KL: Is that what you do during feuds?

RP: If I get hot enough!

KL: How and why did you decide to become a commentator on the national T.V. show "Georgia Championship Wrestling" (now World Championship Wrestling) starting in late 1981?

RP: They asked me. They wanted someone who knew what he was talking about. They offered to pay money and I just went. So I didn't ask them, they asked me.

KL: While you were commentating but not wrestling on T.V. you were still fighting in the Mid Atlantic area?

RP: I was still wrestling there and Atlanta also. I was wrestling all over the place, tons of places. Why wrestle on T.V.? What for? Unless they want to give me a worthy opponent.

Piper's style of commentary included knowledgeable descriptions of holds and maneuvers and strategies. He worried aloud many times that his remarks were over the heads of the fans. He would compliment various wrestlers on their speed or potential or a specific move, but always seemed to qualify his flattery with "but I would have hooked a leg so he couldn't kick out," or "I wouldn't have let him rest, I'd have followed right up," or "he made a mistake I never would have made, he underestimated his opponent." Somehow, no one was ever quite as good or had as much experience or know how as Roddy Piper. "See, the difference between them and me is thinking! I'm always thinking!"

RP: To be able to think while being hurt, I think that's my biggest asset."

At this time, the father-son team of Bob and Brad Armstrong were holding the National Tag Team Championship. Whenever Piper watched one of their matches he would compliment Brad's potential, but stated that he should get out from under Daddy's thumb, as Bob was using him.

Roddy, during one interview, saying "You don't mind" to Bob, turned his back on him and began to ask Brad if he didn't agree that he could go much further if he didn't have to drag his old man along. Bob snapped, "I don't mind, and you don't matter!" and he and Brad left the interview area.

Piper continued to antagonize the Armstrongs and Bob discovered that calling him "Rodney, Rodney, Rodney" sent the volatile Scotsman into a sputtering fit of rage! Finally the battles passed the verbal state and erupted into the ring.

Bob Armstrong found himself attacked from both sides as Gary Hart sicced the Great Kabuki on him out of friendship for Roddy. Hart and Piper held each other in great esteem and Roddy even took over the management of Kabuki for a night when Hart was banned from the arena. Armstrong called Hart and Piper the Mutual Admiration Society and the fans needed hip boots when they got together and began heaping praise and adulation on each other.

The big news in the NWA in February 1982, was the nation wide tournament for the World Tag Team Championship. Roddy Piper entered this competition teamed with Greg "the Hammer" Valentine, but they were eliminated when they lost a match to Jack and Jerry Brisco.

RP: I like to depend only on myself. In a tag team match, if you win or lose it's not because of you, it's because of a team situation. I've never been one for team sports. I like individual sports. I like to fight myself. To tell you the truth, I hate tag team matches. You never know what's going to happen. Things are coming from all over the place. I'd rather be in there just as a single, cause I know what I can do!"

Piper continued to commentate and his comments con-



Piper was in a very bad position when The Assassin grabbed him by the throat and tried to choke him into unconsciousness.

tinued to antagonize. Micheal Hayes wasn't happy when he heard Roddy say he was "a Freebird, he's free alright. Free to lose!"

Piper also had a lot to say about Tommy Rich and again the resulting hard feelings broke out in violence. By spring of 1982 the feud was really heating up and Piper, joined by Ole Anderson, attacked Tommy and whipped him with belts. Later Roddy surprised Rich, tied his hand to a ringpost and, broke "Wildfire's" wrist.

The N.W.A. ruled that Rich could wrestle with his cast and a tag team match was signed — Piper and Anderson vs. Rich and Dusty Rhodes. On T.V. Tommy said, "Roddy Piper thought he was gonna get rid of Tommy Rich! But I got ten pounds of cast right here that I can't wait to whomp him upside the head a couple of times with!" Roddy and Ole lost that match.

Piper put a bounty on Dusty and Tommy of \$5000 and brought in a masked man called Dr. X to work on it. During a tag match that summer, Dusty managed to unmask him to find it was Don Muraco. The exposed villain attacked Rhodes with a chair and injured his leg, collecting at least half the bounty.

Back in the Mid Atlantic, on May 10, Piper finally lost his Heavyweight Title to Jack Brisco. He didn't take the defeat gracefully and promptly stole the belt back! He was fined \$500 a day for as long as he kept it and ran his bill up to \$10,000!

Roddy Piper (Continued on Page 60)

DONNA DAY —

One Very Rough And Tough Lady Wrestler

By Joe Kennedy

Donna Day is an attractive young woman. She stands 5'5" and has blondish-brown hair. All the right curves in all the right places is the only way to describe her figure. Her eyes are a captivatingly beautiful green.

Donna is also one of the meanest, roughest, most villainous, stop-at-nothing-to-win girl wrestlers ever seen. During recent bouts she pulled hair, choked, kicked, trapped her opponent on the ropes, and even hit the referee and accused her opponent of the foul deed.

Donna became interested in wrestling when she was very young and went to the matches with her grandmother. In high school she was a natural athlete and played on the softball team. Once out of school, she wanted something more challenging, more competitive, and more dangerous. She turned to wrestling.

After being trained by Lady Satan, Donna was ready for her first match. "It was in Georgia. I was disqualified." Donna started her career with a rough ring style and has kept it that way for three and one-half years. "I'm out there to fight and I just fight to win."

Starting in Georgia, Donna wrestled her way through almost every State in the Union. Newfoundland, Canada, and Trinidad are Donna's major bookings in foreign countries. One national Donna wants to tour is England.

Singles matches are the ones Donna likes best. "It's one against one. You've got the girl in there and she can't get away and there's nobody to interfere." Donna has participated in women's tag and mixed tag matches as well as mixed midget tag team matches.

The only type of match that Donna will not fight is a mud match. "It would be a disgrace to my pride. Pigs wallow in mud...not ladies."

Winning the U.S. Championship belt is Donna's long range goal. A more immediate ambition she says is to "get even with Debbie Combs." Debbie and Donna have met in some furious confrontations. Donna has also battled Lucile Dupree, Linda Lane, and Candi Divine. Donna says her easiest match was against Candi.

Donna hopes that promoters will be including more girl wrestlers in their cards. "**All The Marbles** has helped the sport. More fans are coming to see the girls wrestle." Donna maintains the girls are just as good as the guys and they are just as popular.

Despite her rugged style of ring warfare, Donna has evaded serious injury. Two chipped elbows and a broken nose are the worst damage she has received in the ring. Part of her good luck in avoiding injury can be attributed to staying in shape.

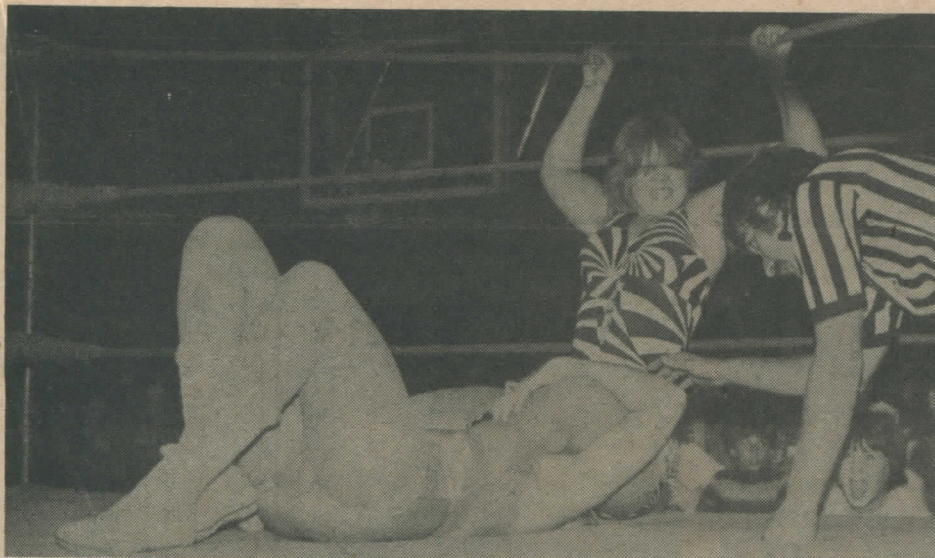
Stretching exercises are a major part of Donna's training program. These exercises keep Donna limber so she can take the battering of a rough fight without breaking. Donna uses weight lifting and calisthenics to improve her strength and endurance. She can bench press up to 100 lbs.

Donna's hobbies include motorcycles, race cars, horseback riding, swimming, rock concerts, and movies. "Scary movies are the best," with **Friday the 13th** being her favorite. Living dangerously by nature Donna will be skydiving in the near future.

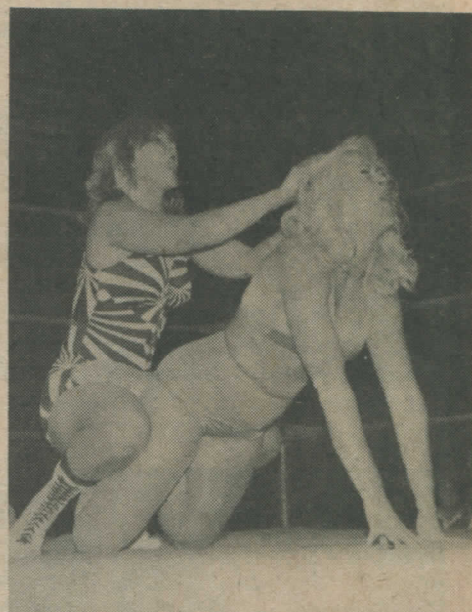


Donna is not married. What kind of men appeal to her? "Big guys," she says, "big guys with money." An ideal evening might include dinner, "Spaghetti is great," a movie, and a few video games. Most of Donna's video time is spent at the controls of Centipede. "My best score so far is 45,000."

Though her rough style and villainous temperament may make her the fan's favorite, Donna is an excellent wrestler. Her matches are always fast paced and exciting. Be sure to see her if you have the opportunity. You won't be disappointed.

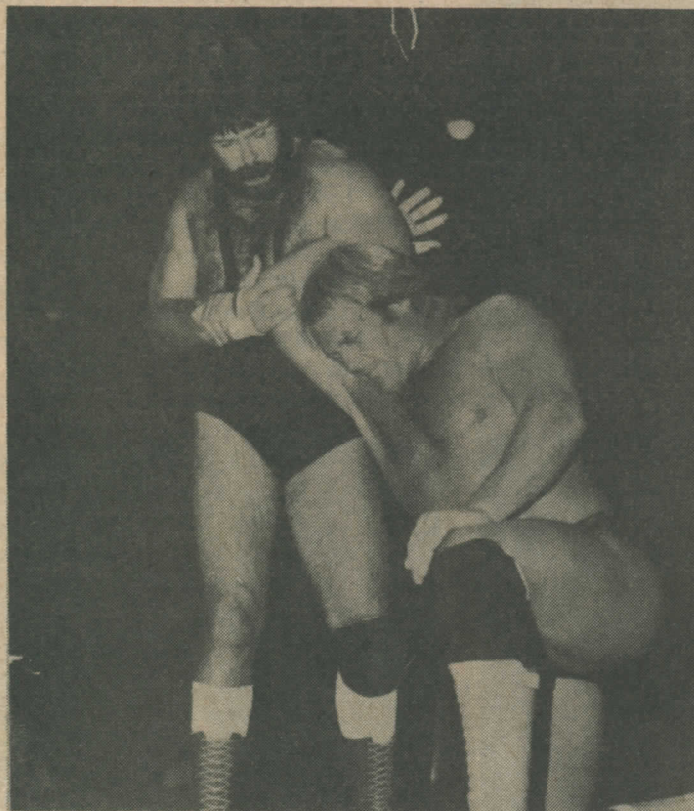


DONNA DAY IN ACTION: Here we see her at her worst. Donna's opponent Debbie Combs soon found out that Donna will use any tactic, fair or foul, to gain an advantage. Although Day is a fine wrestler when she wants to be, she certainly isn't above using the ropes or her opponent's trunks to gain leverage. When the mood suits her, Donna has also also been known to pull hair, scratch, bite, claw, punch, and kick. Donna Day is indeed one very rough and tough lady wrestler.

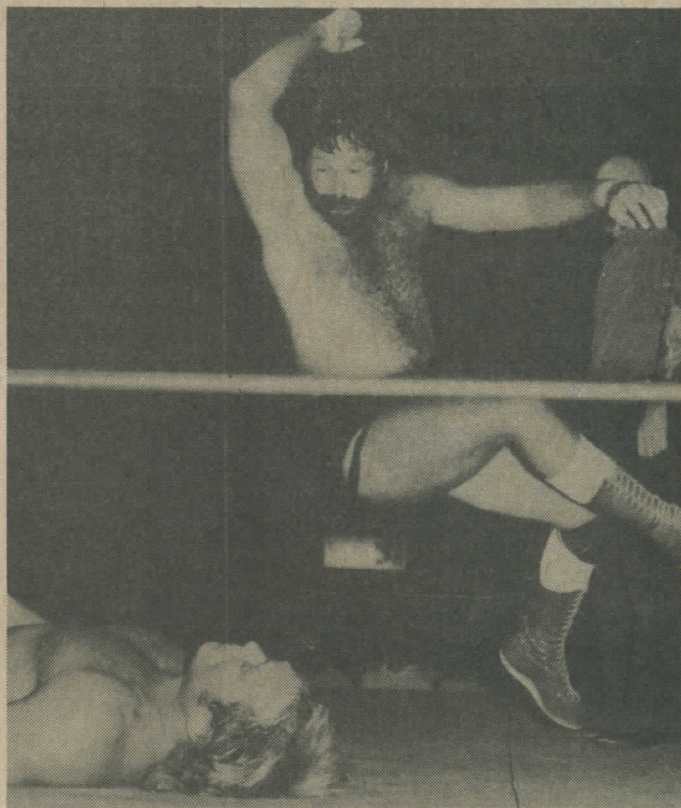


DUTCH MANTELL VS. STEVE KEIRN

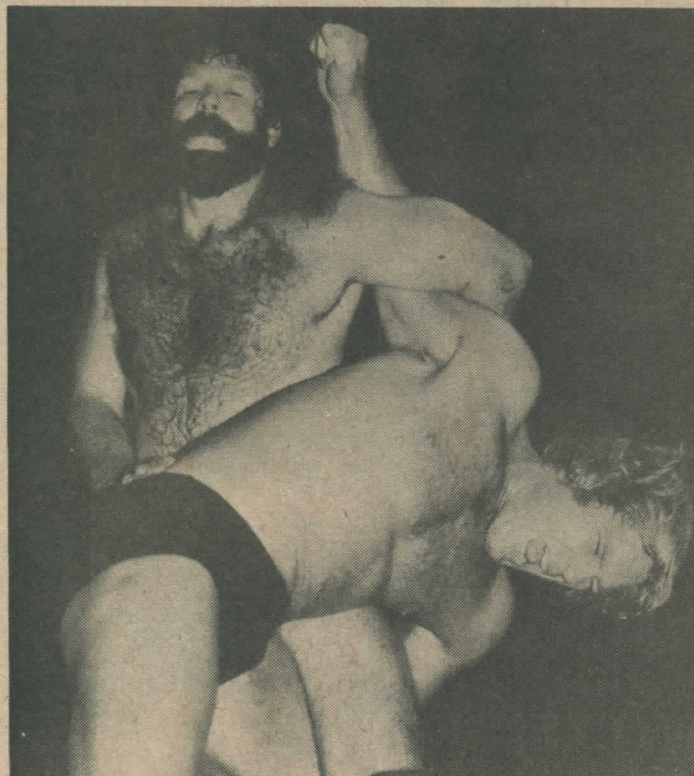
By Larry Cranston



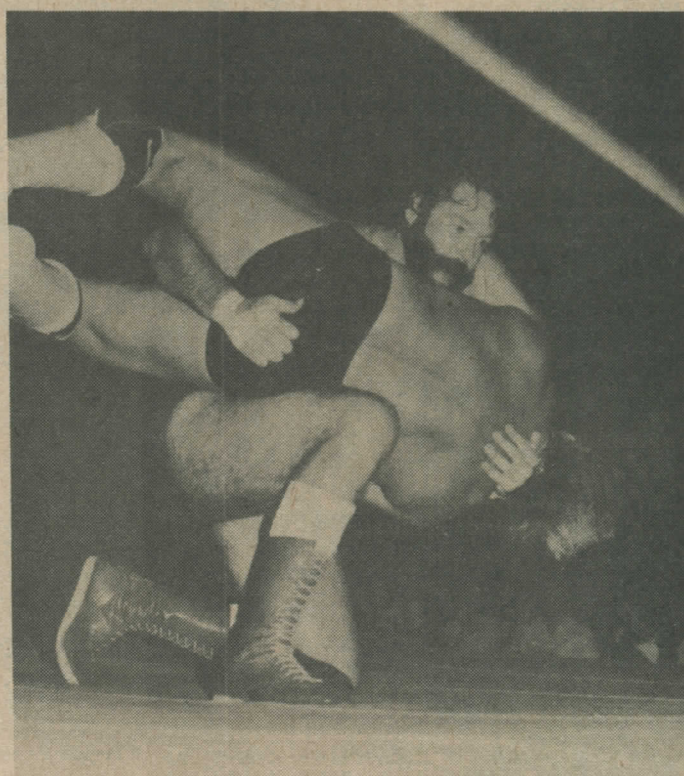
Dutch Mantell started out the match in an early advantage by trapping Steve Keirn in an armbar.



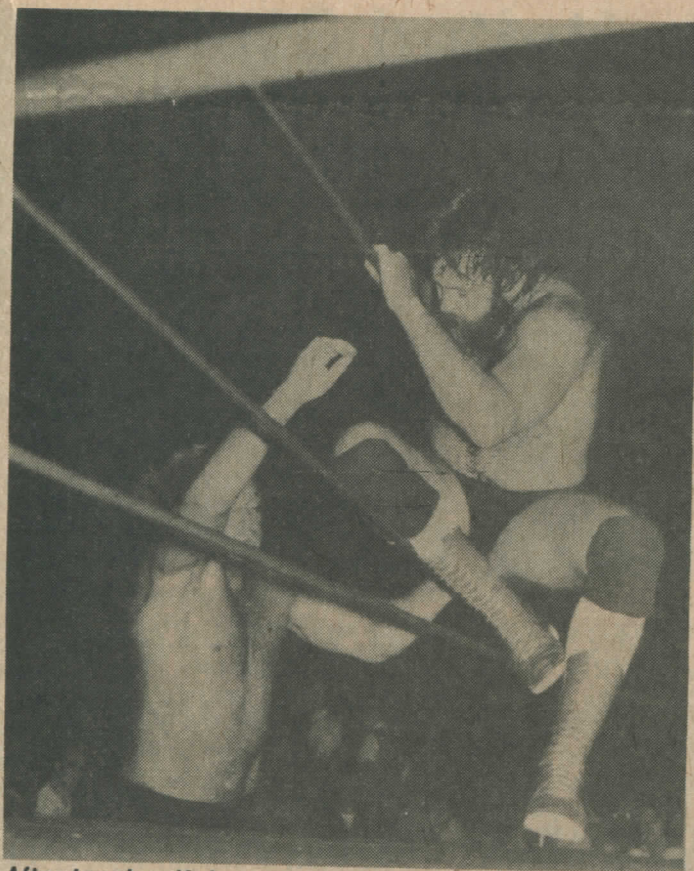
After softening Keirn up a bit, Mantell moved in for the kill with a series of jarring elbow thrusts.



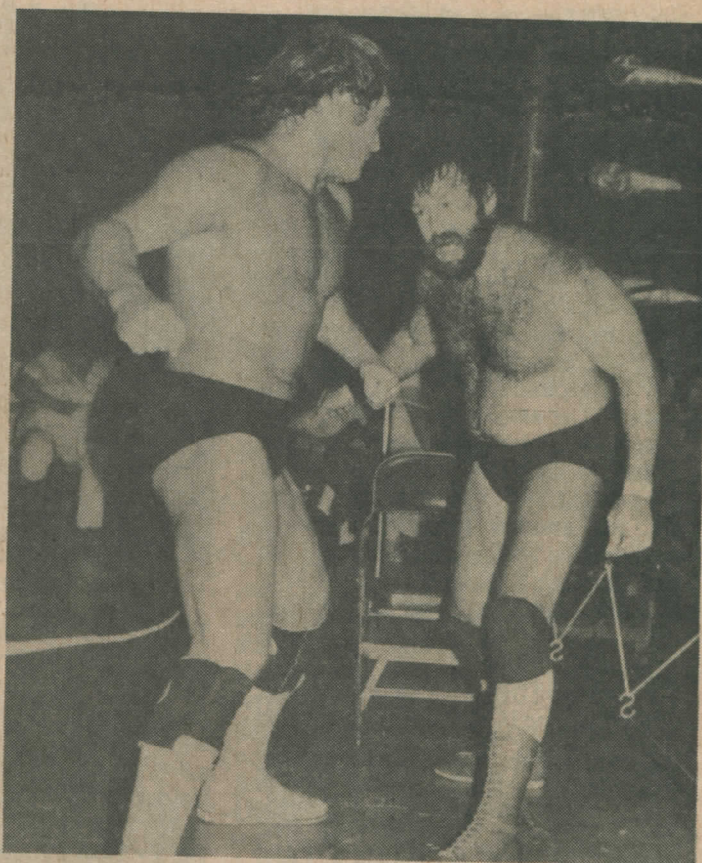
Dutch tried to wring out a cry of submission from Steve's lips with this abdominal stretch hold.



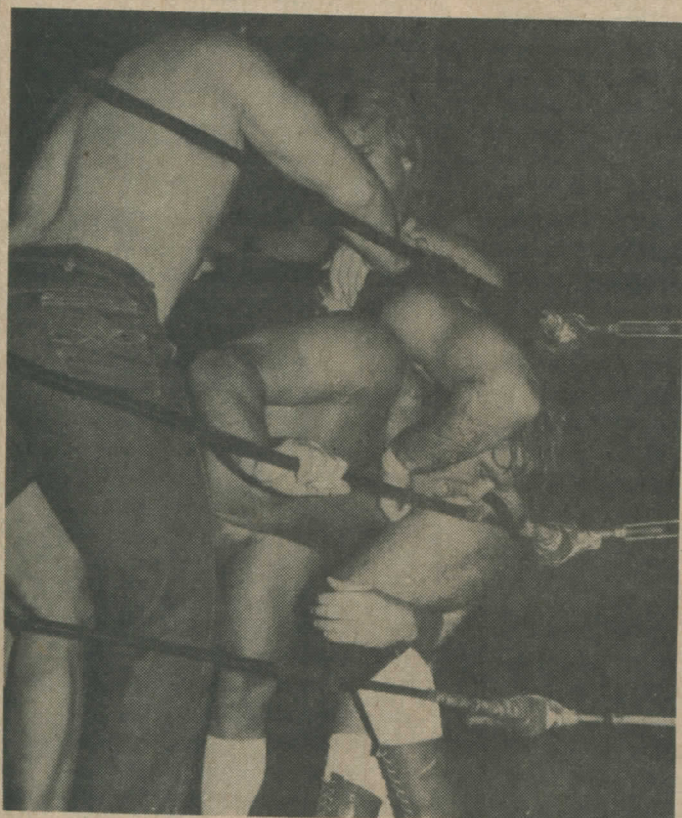
Still unable to put him away, Mantell next tried to break his foe right in two with a nasty backbreaker.



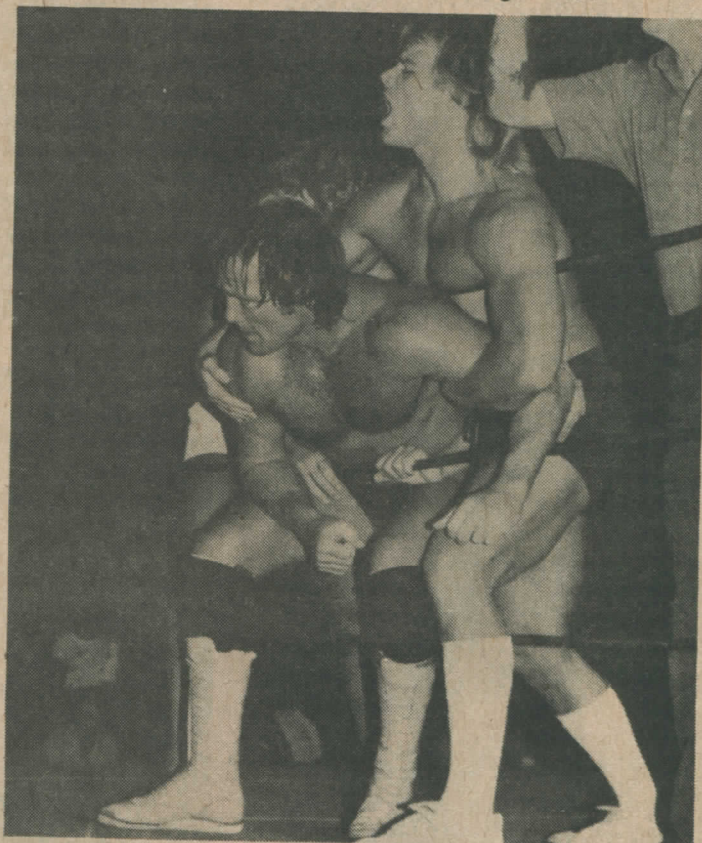
After tossing Keirn out of the ring, Mantell tried to prevent him from reentering the squared circle by kneeing him.



Steve grabbed Mantell and brought him outside of the ring also, where they began to slug it out.



When the match got completely out of hand, the referee declared the bout a "no contest," and help was enlisted from the dressing rooms to restore order.



Steve Keirn wasn't ready to call it quits, and he challenged Dutch Mantell to climb back in the ring and finish the fight.

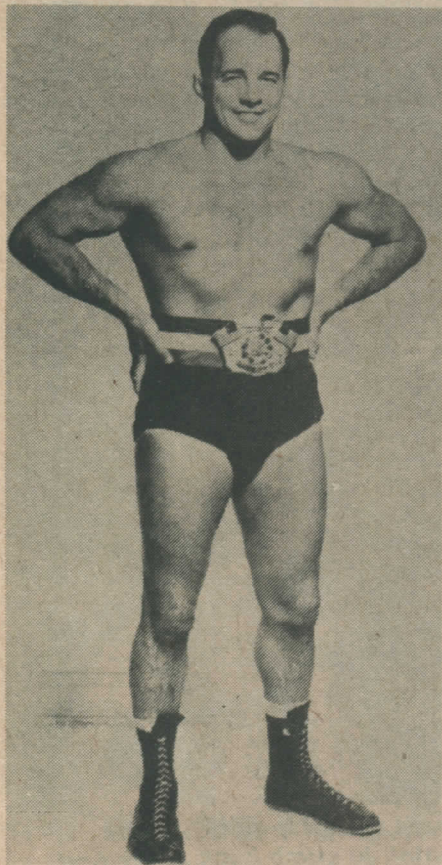
The History of the United States Heavyweight Championship

By David Meltzer

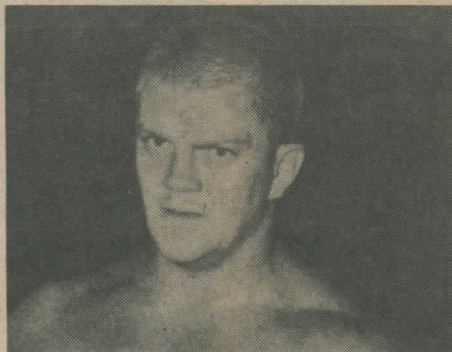
In the world of wrestling, championships come and go. Some last only a few months and are soon forgotten. Others last more than a decade and have long, colorful histories. But how many championships last nearly three decades? The answer is very few.

Those that would immediately come to mind would be the N.W.A. World's Heavyweight and Junior Heavyweight Title. But another title has a history nearly as long and as colorful. And the most interesting facet is that the title belt itself, lasted as long as the title. We're referring to the United States Heavyweight Title.

The title and belt were first presented to Verne Gagne in the early 50's. It was then known as the U.S. Television Championship. Gagne held the title for most of that decade. He was in possession of the title when he was first awarded the A.W.A. World's Title. The belt found a home in Northern California in 1961 and particularly at San Francisco's Cow Palace.



Verne Gagne
38 THE WRESTLING NEWS

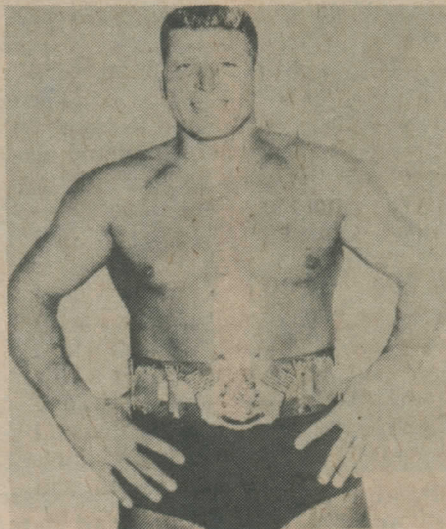


Dick The Bruiser

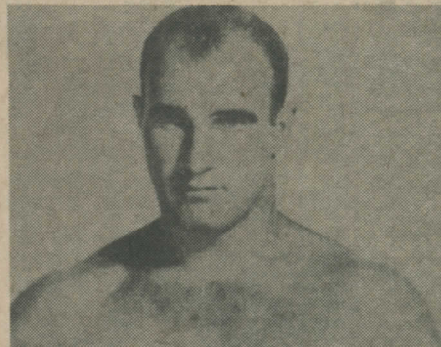
Throughout the 60's the title history was dominated by one man, Ray "The Crippler" Stevens. The same championship belt lasted through the 70's, with Stevens' long-time partner and adversary Pat Patterson a frequent title holder. And the same belt was worn into the ring in the final defense of the title, by Dusty Rhodes on December 27, 1980 when he wrestled Ole Anderson.

Besides Gagne, some of the other camps in the 50's, when the belt was regularly defended at Chicago's old Marigold Arena (the site of the National TV tapings), included Angelo Poffo, Dick the Bruiser, Wilbur Snyder and German terror Hans Schmidt.

And though Stevens did dominate the 60's, the title was also in the capable hands of men like Cowboy Bill Watts, Pepper Gomez, Bearcat Wright, Kinji Shibuya, Fritz Von Erich and Snyder during the early part of the

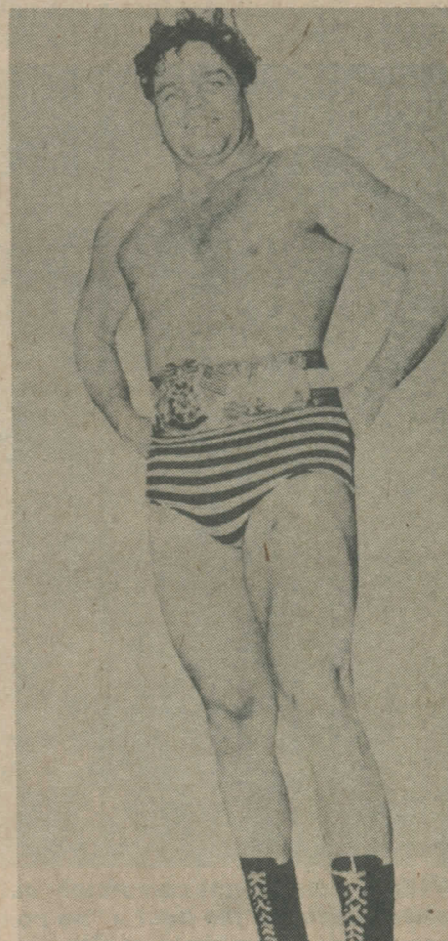


Wilbur Snyder

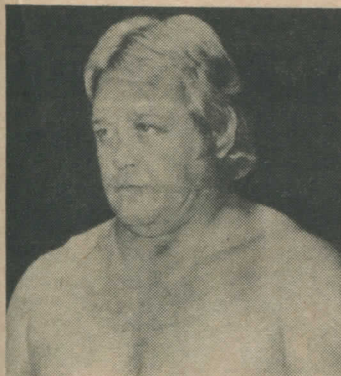


Hans Schmidt

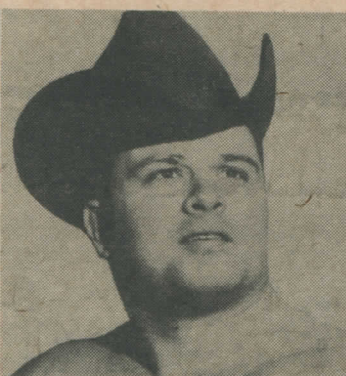
decade. When Stevens defeated then W.W.W.F. Champion Bruno Sammartino at San Francisco's Cow Palace in 1967, it showed the world that this belt was among the most important. Stevens was the most hated wrestler in the Bay Area for most of the 60's. But by the time "The Crippler" defeated Dr. Bill Miller in January 1969, he was at the top of the popularity polls.



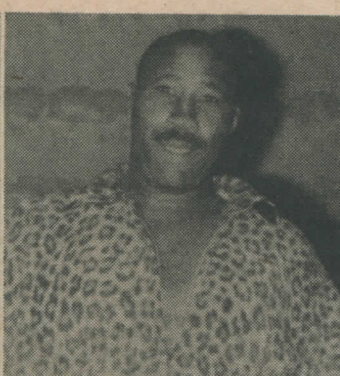
Angelo Poffo



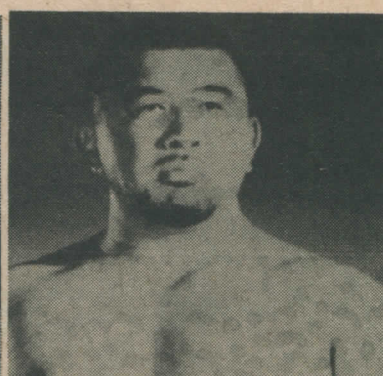
Ray Stevens



Cowboy Bill Watts



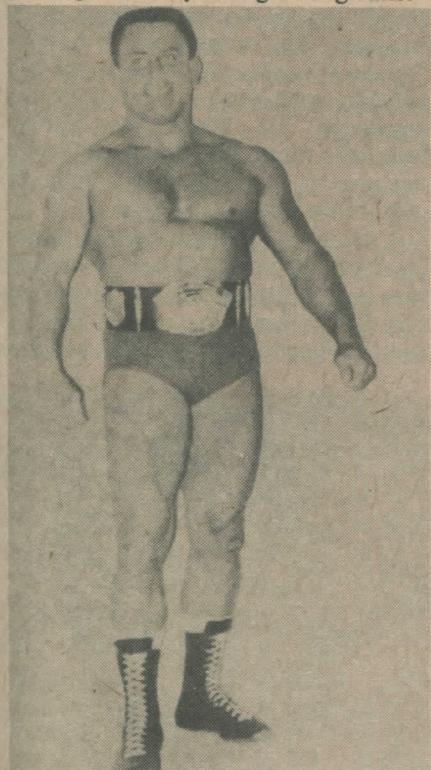
Bearcat Wright



Kinji Shibuya

Besides being "The Crippler," Stevens was also "The Daredevil." His fifth reign on top ended when he broke his leg racing motorcycles. On November 12, 1969, Ray's bitter enemy Pat Patterson won the title defeating Pedro Morales in the elimination bout set up at the Cow Palace.

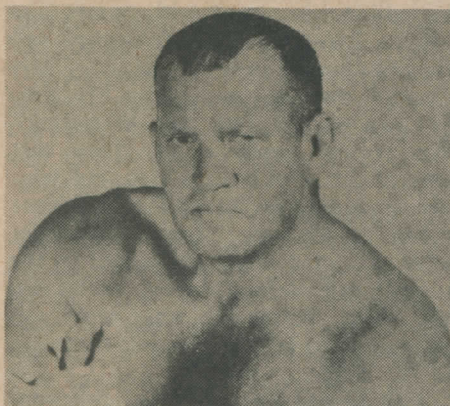
Patterson turned back foes like Bobo Brazil, Cyclone Negro, Pepper Gomez (who suffered a broken leg from Patterson), Peter Maivia and Spyros Arion before Steven's leg healed up. When Stevens was pronounced fit, he immediately asked for a Texas Death Match with Patterson. The July 12, 1970 match at the Cow Palace saw Patterson receiving an "accidental" big splash by special ref Haystacks Calhoun. The injuries suffered caused Patterson to be unable to continue after eight bloody and grueling falls.



Pepper Gomez

Stevens continued to look unbeatable in his sixth, and it turned out to be, final, time with the belt. His victims included "Superstar" Billy Graham, the Mighty Brutus (Bugsy McGraw), Pampero Firpo, Stan Stasiak and Kinji Shibuya. On May 5, 1971, Stevens fell victim to Dr. Ken Ramey's distraction, which allowed Paul DeMarco to win the belt.

DeMarco held the title until August 7, when he was defeated by Peter Maivia. Maivia suffered a bad groin injury in a return Gladiator Death



Fritz Von Erich

Match, which saw DeMarco regain the belt on September 14.

DeMarco's second time on top lasted until November 5, when popular Rocky Johnson won the title using a Boston Crab submission. It should be pointed out that Roy Shire, the Cow Palace promoter, was Johnson's manager in this bout. This was to combat outside interference of DeMarco's new head-man, Haru Sasaki.

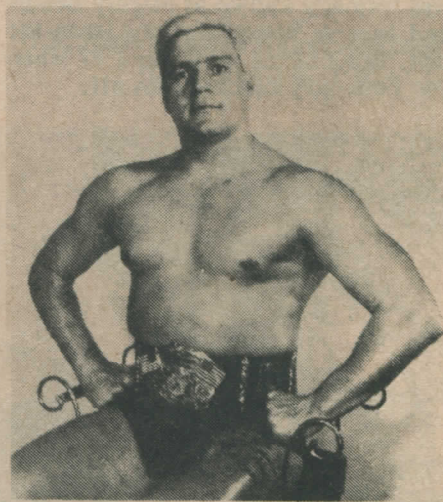
Pat Patterson immediately started chasing Johnson. The Montreal native pointed out he hadn't received a title shot in over a year-and-a-half, and claimed it was two-on-one (Stevens and Calhoun) who stole the belt from him. Patterson made good on his word, and defeated Johnson on February 12, 1972.

Patterson's second stint at the top

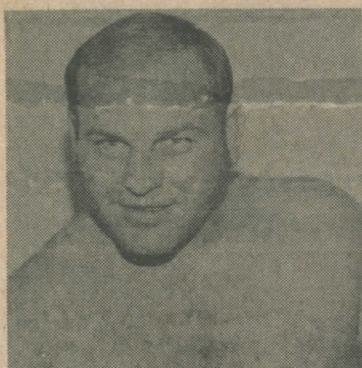
was even more impressive than his first. He started off with wins over former champs Pepper Gomez and Peter Maivia. Then Lars Anderson, who was equally hated and half of the local tag champs to boot, met Patterson in a wild series of matches. At first Patterson, managed by Dr. Ken Ramey, was an island unto himself. He wrestled everyone in sight, and turned them all back. Whether it be popular wrestlers like Rocky Johnson or Ray Stevens or villains like Anderson, DeMarco and Americas' champion Ernie Ladd. The fans began cheering in full force for Patterson after he fired Ramey after suffering a brutal beating in a Sacramento Battle Royal at the hands of Ladd, DeMarco and Anderson.

The mysterious Great Mephisto then defeated Patterson on December 7 in Sacramento to apparently win the title. Because Mephisto used a "loaded boot" to gain the deciding fall, the N.W.A. held the title up. The two met without a conclusion until February 17, 1973 when Patterson was counted out of the ring, giving Mephisto the belt.

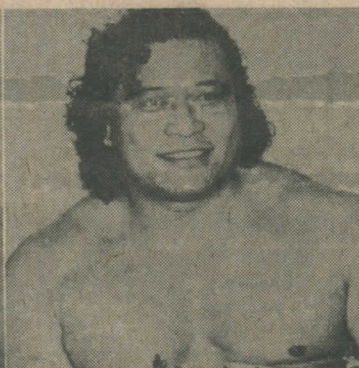
On April 19th, Patterson stole Mephisto's boot in Sacramento. On



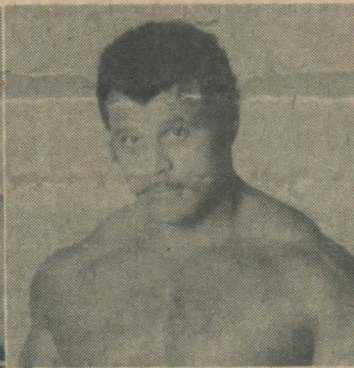
Pat Patterson



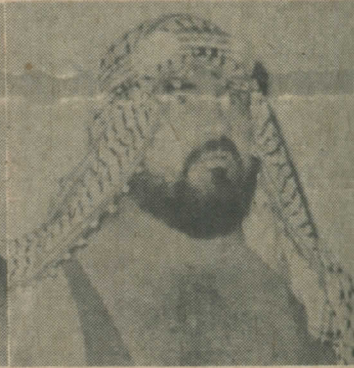
Paul DeMarco



Chief Peter Maivia



Rocky Johnson



The Great Mephisto

April 28th, Patterson was wearing the boot in a Texas Death Match. Patterson used it to give Mephisto an incredibly bloody beating, and Mephisto was never heard from again in these parts.

Patterson retained his title with wins against Shibuya, Mr. Saito, both of the masked Interns, Dutch Savage, Pak Song and others during the remainder of 1973. His toughest tests were against long-time rival, Ray Stevens. They had a pair of bouts which packed the Cow Palace. Although both were favorites, it was anything goes in their battles which saw both men use plenty of foreign objects in an attempt to be on top. Patterson also pinned Ray's new tag team partner, Nick Bockwinkel. But the bizarre Lonnie "Moondog" Mayne stopped Patterson on December 29, 1973 thanks to outside help from Karl von Brauner.

Mayne stayed on top for a long time, with Patterson, Maivia Johnson, Don Muraco, Mighty Igor, Mountain Man Mike and others consistently chasing him. It was Maivia who caught him, winning on November 22nd in a bout Peter claimed he would retire if he lost.

Maivia second title reign lasted until January 15, 1974 when The Brute, who was formerly known as Mighty Brutus and later as Buggy McGraw, won the belt. Brute lasted until April 17 when Pat Patterson knocked him off.

All the title changes in the early part of the 70's took place at San Francisco's Cow Palace, the home of the belt. Tradition was broken when Patterson was counted out against Angelo Mosca on July 7 in San Jose. Patterson came back on September 7, in the state capital of Sacramento, to win the belt for a 5th time.

Patterson's toughest foe during this reign was Don Muraco. Muraco gave Patterson a bloody beating in a Sacramento tag team bout in which they were partners. Muraco boasted an incredible win streak with names like Mayne, Mosca, Maivia, Johnson — all former champs heading the list. "Mr. Cocky" even downed Pedro Morales, El Gran Marcus, Tim "Mr. Wrestling" Woods and many more. They met several times without a clear-cut winner, including an incredible 84 minute match which saw Muraco the loser after a controversial count out in the seventh fall. Before Muraco would win the title, Patterson was upset on February 15, 1975 by the salt-throwing of Mr. Fuji.

Fuji turned back Maivia, Johnson, Stevens, Morales, Tony Garea, Gomez, Al Madril, Chavo Guerrero, Harley Race and Muraco among others for a full year. It should be pointed out Patterson defeated Fuji in a title bout on June 25th, on closed circuit of the Ali-Inoki match. Pat used Brass

Knuckles to win the bout, and the title reverted back. Patterson was so furious he left the area, vowing never to return.

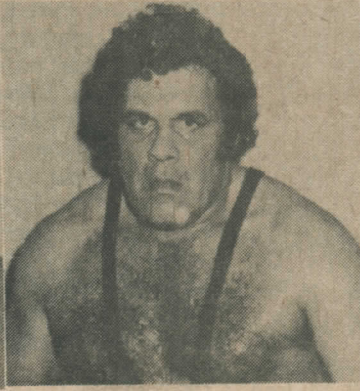
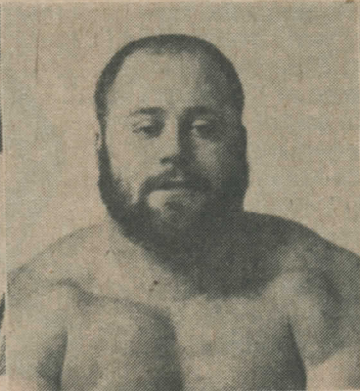
By year's end, more than 100,000 signatures were on a petition demanding a Patterson-Fuji match. The match was set for February 17, 1976 — a Gladiator Death Match, in which falls don't count, loser goes out on a stretcher, everything goes. Patterson had a few added weapons he was going to wear. One was Mephisto's old loaded boot, the other was a mask, which could be used for a foreign object. When the bout took place, Patterson's opponent also wore a mask in the ring. But it wasn't Mr. Fuji, even though he was announced as such and wore the title belt in the ring.

The two masked men battled for eight falls and more than an hour as their masks each turned red with blood. Finally Patterson subdued the imposter, who turned out to be Toru Tanaka. Tanaka was fined by the state athletic commission, and Fuji was suspended for life. Then N.W.A. President Eddie Graham ruled Patterson was the champion, but Patterson stubbornly refused the belt.

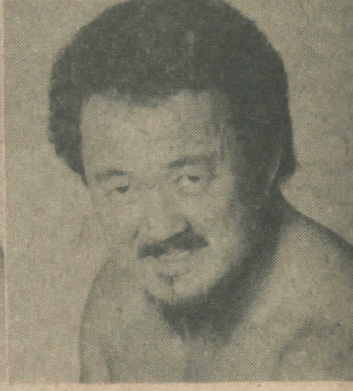
A ten-man tournament was held in March for the vacated belt. Patterson, who got by Dutch Savage, Bob Roop and Dory Funk Jr., met a surprise, Alexis Smirnoff, who got by Jack

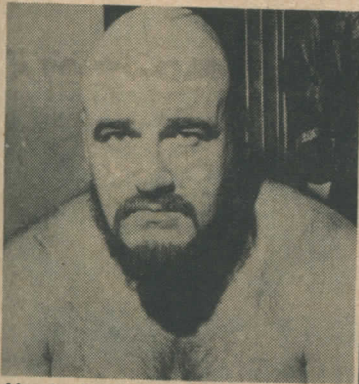


"Moondog" Lonnie Mayne **The Brute**
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Angelo "King Kong" Mosca **Mr. Fuji**

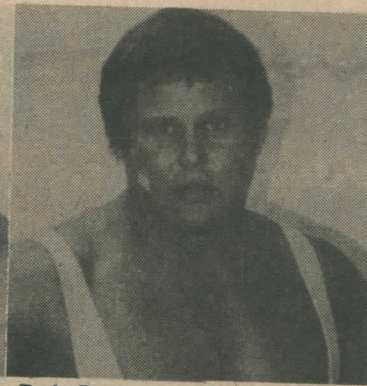




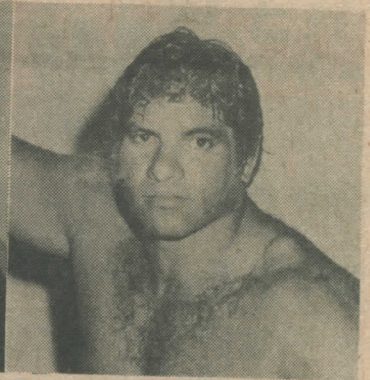
Alexis Smirnoff



Dean Ho



Bob Roop



Don Muraco

Brisco, Pepper Gomez and Peter Maivia. Patterson won the battle, gaining the title in the final round when Smirnoff's head cuts were ruled too bad. The sixth time on top for Patterson tied Stevens' old record. He ended up losing the war, when Smirnoff bested him in a Russian Chain Match in April.

The Mad Russian's win list included names like Mayne, Madril, Gomez, Guerrero, Maivia and Patterson. But during February of 1977, Smirnoff was downed by popular Dean Ho. Ho kept the championship until September, when Bob Roop defeated him.

The Northern California wrestling scene at this point was overwhelmed by Roop's feud with Kevin Sullivan by this point. Each man had already put the other out of action at least once. Roop also injured Kevin's brother Johnny, and gave Kevin's 63-year-old father Charlie a shoulderbreaker. Sullivan in turn had sent packing Roop's bounty hunters, Bob Orton Jr. and brother Barry. Sullivan apparently won the title in November, but it was taken away because he used a foreign object. A loser leaves town re-match saw Roop win out to end the feud, before another sellout at the Cow Palace. Roop gained perhaps his biggest win on December 26th, when he bested Stevens. An added embarrassment was that it was "Ray Stevens

Night" at the Cow Palace, with dignitaries such as San Francisco's late mayor George Moscone on hand to honor Stevens' many years as champion.

Dean Ho gained back the title on January 15, 1978 in Sacramento. Ho dropped the crown on March 22nd to Don Muraco. Several weeks before this match took place, Muraco did a number on both Ho and promoter Roy Shire who tried to break up the brawl at Sacramento's T.V. studio. Shires continually would interfere and bait Muraco when "the magnificent one" had Ho all but defeated in the events. The aftermath of the title change saw Muraco gain his revenge, by piledriving Shire on the arena floor. Muraco and Earl Maynard followed it up by badly injuring Ho.

Shire then put up a \$10,000 bounty to anyone who could do a number on the hated Muraco. The man who collected was Lonnie "Moondog" Mayne, who on July 14th bested Muraco in a Russian Chain match. Two months later Mayne died in an automobile accident after suffering a concussion in a title defense.

A tournament was held on the "Moondog" Mayne memorial card in October. Many wrestlers had openly stated they would "win it for Mayne," but the man of the hour wasn't one of them. "Playboy" Buddy Rose surpris-

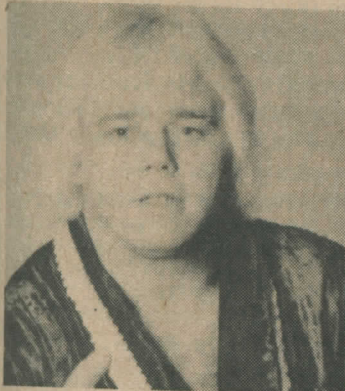
ed most fans by scoring consecutive wins over Chavo Guerrero, Peter Maivia, Dean Ho and Jimmy Snuka to win the tournament and title.

Rose and Snuka's title bouts reached epic proportion, but the "Playboy" escaped with the title in hand. Rose wasn't as successful with the state athletic commission as he was in the ring. An incident in San Jose led to Rose being indefinitely suspended. A match was made in March 1979 between the top two contenders, Ron Starr and Roddy Piper.

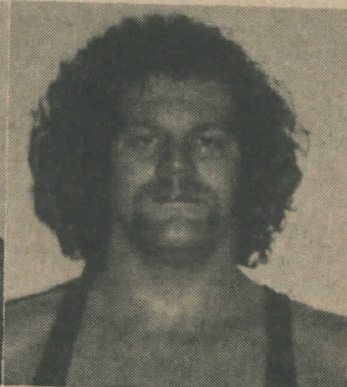
Starr won the title, but lost it to Rose on May 16th, when the "Playboy" got off suspension. The two were set for a re-match on June 16th, when Rose refused to wrestle. Rose claimed he was owed a large sum of money by promoter Shire. Starr wrestled and defeated John Mantell and wound up as champion for a second time.

Starr ventured to Kansas City, where he lost a non-title match to "Bruiser" Bob Sweetan. Sweetan came to the Cow Palace for a title match in October, and wound up with the belt. On December 26th, a Bay Area native, Oakland's George Welles defeated Sweetan in two straight falls to gain the belt.

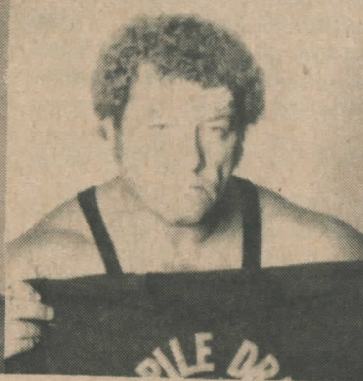
U.S. Heavyweight Championship
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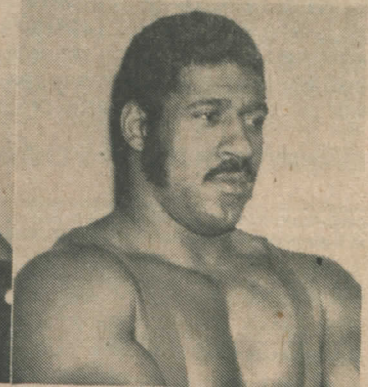
"Playboy" Buddy Rose



Ron Starr

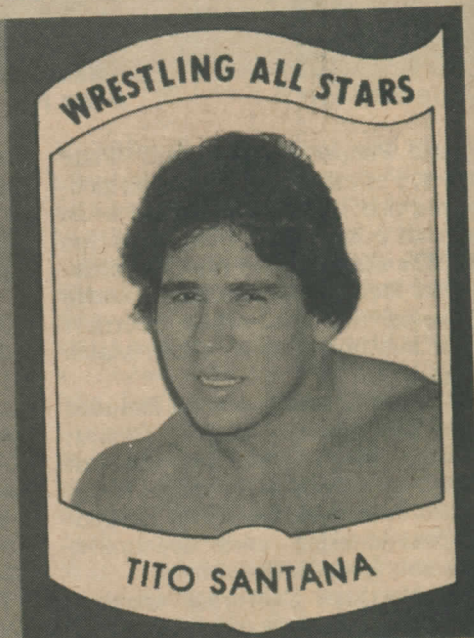
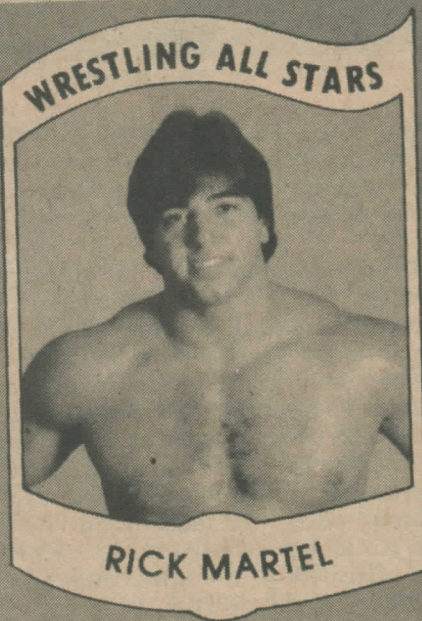
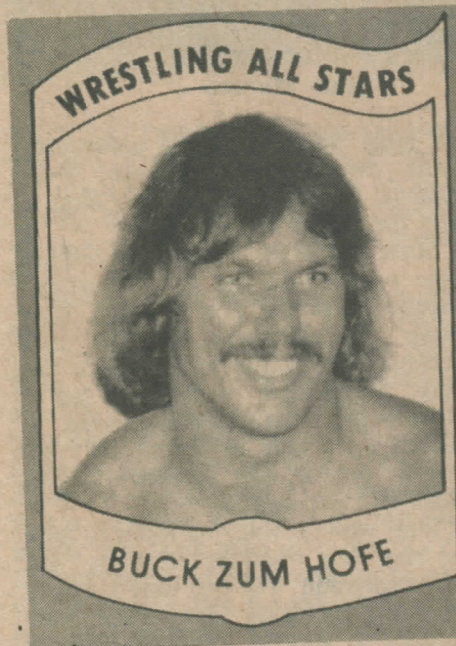


Bob Sweetan



George Welles

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An Interview with the Avalanche — **BUZZ TYLER**

By Shawn Swagler

Buzz Tyler, the self-proclaimed "America's Sweetheart," is wrestling all over Mid-America and becoming more and more popular with each match. The "Avalanche" as he is called by many, is a ten year veteran of the ring.

WM: Welcome to (The Wrestling News) What keeps you in the mid-west?

BT: The competition, fans, the World's Champion comes here often.

WM: Where all have you wrestled?

BT: I've wrestled mainly in the province of Nova Scotia; and the states of Florida, Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa. I'm going to Japan in February.

WM: What titles have you held?

BT: I've held most of the major titles in the United States, except for the World's Title, which someday I'll get, if I get the opportunity. I've held the Southeastern belt, the Central States Heavyweight belt twice, and the Central States Tag Team Title.

WM: Who have been your toughest opponents?

BT: The toughest opponents, there have been a lot of them, but the two that come to mind are Harley Race and Ric Flair.

WM: What can you tell us about the start of your career up until now?

BT: Well from the start of my career I've come a long way. I think I'm the only man within a period of three months to wrestle three of the World champions, which were Harley Race, Dusty Rhodes, and Ric Flair. I wrestled Harley Race twelve times for the World title. I wrestled Dusty Rhodes eight times and I wrestled Ric Flair about ten times.

WM: Who have been your favorite tag team partners?

BT: Well, "Bulldog" Bob Brown has been a very good tag team partner. These last few months, that I have been in Mid-America, I haven't been in too many tag team matches. Mark Romero is a very fine, young individual with a lot of speed and a lot of finesse. So the two that come to mind are Bob Brown and Mark Romero.

WM: Who do you think are the top wrestlers in the world today?

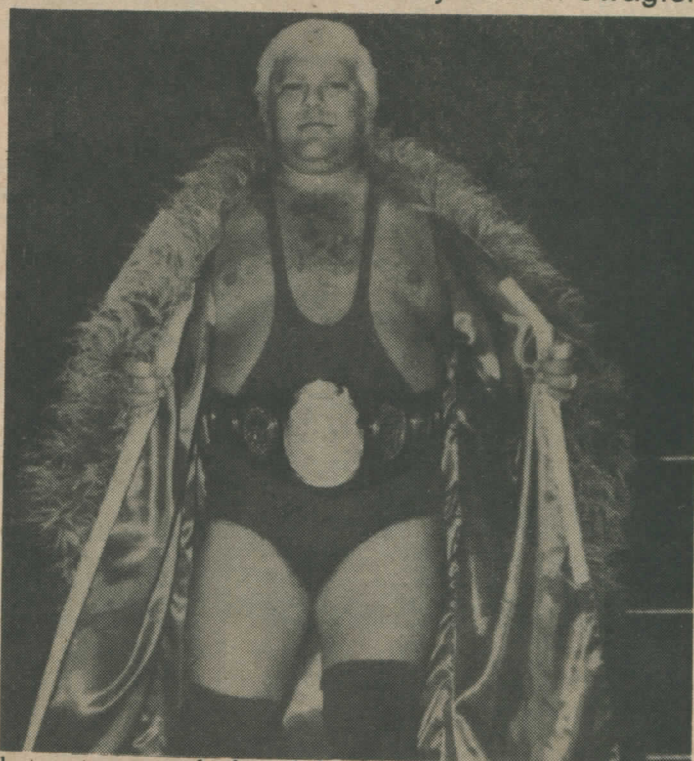
BT: Well, a lot of them are in this area now. Naturally, it's going to be Ric Flair, Harley Race. Most of your top contenders for the World title are in this area now, who are Manny Fernandez, Mark Romero, myself, "Bulldog" Bob Brown, Mike George, Omar Atlas. There are a lot of top contenders right here.

WM: Did anyone help you in starting your career?

BT: Well I was in semi-pro baseball and I've been a wrestling fan all of my life, ever since I was a kid big enough to watch it. I had a choice of baseball or wrestling. I chose wrestling. I've been happy with it though I've had a lot of injuries and a lot of downfalls. It's just something you have to stay on top of and give 100% all the time.

WM: What are the best and worst things in wrestling?

BT: The best thing in wrestling is that you can stay physically able to do it. Because a lot of people are not able to do the things they want to in life. As far as the worst thing in wrestling, I would say when your opponents carry foreign objects, causing a person to be injured and to be out of wrestling, and to go to the hospital. Which has happened to me many times. You might recall an incident with J.J. Dillon and Sir Oliver Humperdink, when my cast was pulled off and they hit me across my head and I had eleven stitches and injured my neck and I was out of wrestling for six weeks. So things of



that sort are very bad, and that is why people in my position are trying to rid wrestling of these type of people.

WM: What wrestlers did you like while growing up?

BT: Let me see, there was Lou Thesz, Dory Funk Jr., Jack Brisco, Harley Race. That's all I can recall at the moment.

WM: Where were you born?

BT: I was born in a town below Charlotte, North Carolina. In Rockville, South Carolina. Then I moved to Nashville, Tennessee.

WM: What's your height and weight?

BT: I'm 6 feet and right now I'm about 310 lbs.

WM: What are some of your hobbies?

BT: Fishing is one of my greatest hobbies. I still like to play ball. But as far as my No. 1 hobby it would be fishing.

WM: What are some of your goals in wrestling?

BT: My goal in wrestling right now is to go after the World's Title. Or maybe get a partner and go after the World's Tag Team Titles.

WM: Where do you live right now?

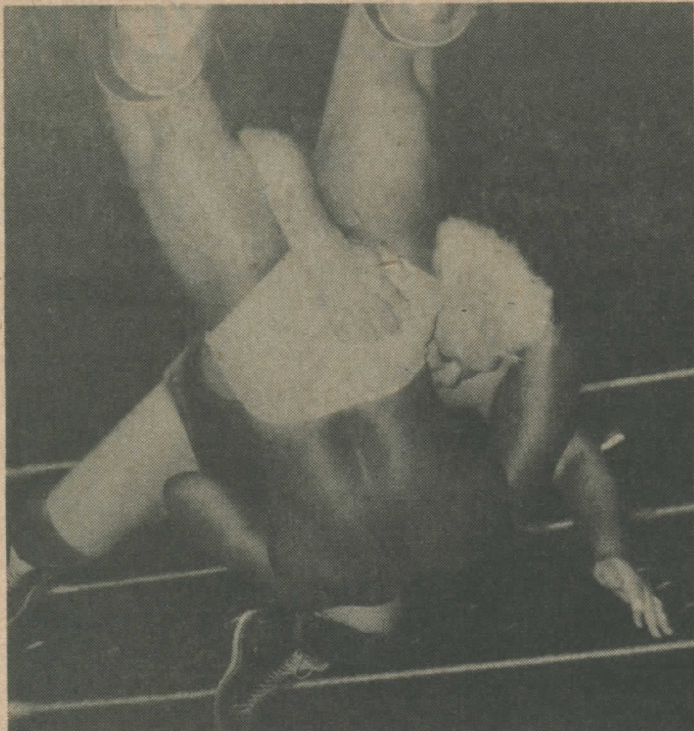
BT: I live in Kansas City, Missouri.

WM: What do you think of the fans?

BT: I'll tell you what as far as here in the midwest area or even in the South, the wrestling fans are the best and most loyal fans there are in any pro sport. I think the world of all of them and there is no one else who dedicates their time to wrestling as the wrestling fans. They really get behind the ones they like and they pull for us 150% all the time. They never give up on us.

WM: What do you think of the traveling?

BT: The traveling is hectic, but you know it goes along with the territory. You've got to travel 100,000 miles in a car a year. 200,000 miles in a plane. But this is what we chose to do. This is the sport we truly like and we love. It goes along with the territory. You must do it. You got to travel and get a name for yourself and be a top competitor. You got to be a



"Avalanche" time as Tyler puts his three hundred plus pounds into power slamming yet another opponent into defeat.

world wide known name in pro wrestling. And to do that you have to travel.

WM: What injuries have you had in the ring?

BT: When J.J. Dillon put eleven stitches in my head. I had a separated shoulder. I had a World title match with Ric Flair which he put the Figure-4 on me and broke both my cartilages and I had to have both of them taken out of my knee. I've had both ankles broken about 10 times apiece. That's about it. I think that's enough.

WM: Could you tell us about the K.C. injury?

BT: I had to go to the K.C. Chief's doctor, Dr. Miller. I had a World title match on Dec. 3rd in K.C., Kansas's Memorial Hall. We had been in the match about 40 minutes in which I had complete control over Ric Flair. There was no doubt in my mind and there was no doubt in the wrestling fans' minds that I was just 3 seconds away from being the World's Champion. And at that point where I had picked Ric Flair up for what I call the Avalanche, which is a powerslam, I powerslammed Ric and his foot went over the rope for the count of 3. And as I backed up as he was coming off the ropes I went for a big splash and he moved and when he moved he got up and gave me a suplex which stunned me and he went in for the Figure-4. As soon as he locked it and went down both my cartilages broke in half. Even though he broke both my cartilages in my left knee I reversed the hold on him. I did not give up. And at the point where I couldn't hardly walk on my left knee. I still continued the match with Ric Flair. I got up. I was able to take control of him again. I was able to give him another powerslam in which his foot went over the rope again. I had complete control of him after the injury. At that point Ric Flair had no other place to go. He was beat. He snatched my legs and the one that was hurt he threw up on his shoulders and grabbed the top ropes and beat me with 1, 2, 3. He had to hold the ropes. He cheated to do it.

WM: Do you have any close friends in wrestling?

BT: Sure, I have a lot of close friends in wrestling. I've got Mark Romero, Manny Fernandez, "Bulldog" Brown, Bob Geigel, the president of the N.W.A., Mike George, Omar Atlas, and numerous other friends around the country.

WM: What was your toughest match?

BT: My toughest match was with Ric Flair.

WM: Was that your greatest match, too?

BT: Well, that's got to be the highlight of anyone's career to wrestle for the World's Title. Even though Harley Race was a very, very tough match. Dusty Rhodes was a tough match. But Ric Flair was a great match because I was injured and like I said I was only 3 seconds away from being the World's Champion.

WM: How did you get the name "Avalanche?"

BT: Well, it's the move I use. You know at the time I started using it I weighed 365 lbs. And if you have ever noticed if there is a lot of snow on a mountain and it all comes down it's called an avalanche. When you pick a man 6 feet up in the air and you drop 365 pounds. Now it's 310 lbs. Very few men have ever come out of it. They have been able to get their foot on the ropes. But as far as in the middle of the ring it completely knocks the air out of them. And I'm able to get a pinfall on them.

WM: You said you used to weight 365 but now only 310. Have you been on a strict diet?

BT: Yes I went on a diet and that's why I came down 55 lbs. In a knee injury the knee is never the same. And now that I've come down it takes a lot of stress off my knees now. I'm comfortable at 310 lbs.

WM: What are your favorite holds?

BT: As far as favorite holds, of course the Avalanche is the favorite. But I can use any hold in wrestling. I usually work a persons head or back. I use the bearhug to break a man down, to make him lose his wind. That's usually the way I become a winner. He loses his wind, I work on his back. And I give him the Avalanche.

WM: What do you think of Gary Royal?

BT: As you might recall sometime back Sir Oliver Humperdink offered me a great sum of money. I don't want anyone managing me. Gary Royal has offered me the same thing. I told him exactly what I told the Humperdink. That I do not want a manager. I am a man of my own word and I can do what I want to do by myself. Gary Royal is a very shrewd individual. He's got two of the biggest men in pro wrestling.

WM: How do you rate Ric Flair as a World's Champion?

BT: Ric Flair's a great World Champion. There's nothing the man can't do in the ring. He knows every hold. He knows every move. He uses a lot of strategy. He does a lot of dirty tactics sometimes to keep his belt which you can't blame him, because he has the 10 pounds of gold and making a fortune a year. So he's a very, very great athlete.

WM: What kind of music do you listen to?

BT: Well I listen to a lot of rock music. I listen to Bob Seger. John Cougar is one of my favorites. I play Cougar's song here "Hurts So Good" I play it in K.C., and other places. The fans enjoy it when I play it while I'm on my way to the ring. I like to get out and dance with them.

WM: Did you go see John Cougar in K.C. Arrowhead stadium at the Summer Jam '82?

BT: It's been so long since I've been to a concert because of the traveling I do but every opportunity I get you can bet I'll be there.

WM: Continued good success and I hope you get that World Title.

BT: Thank you.

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Why Jimmy Hart Is A Dangerous Man To Oppose

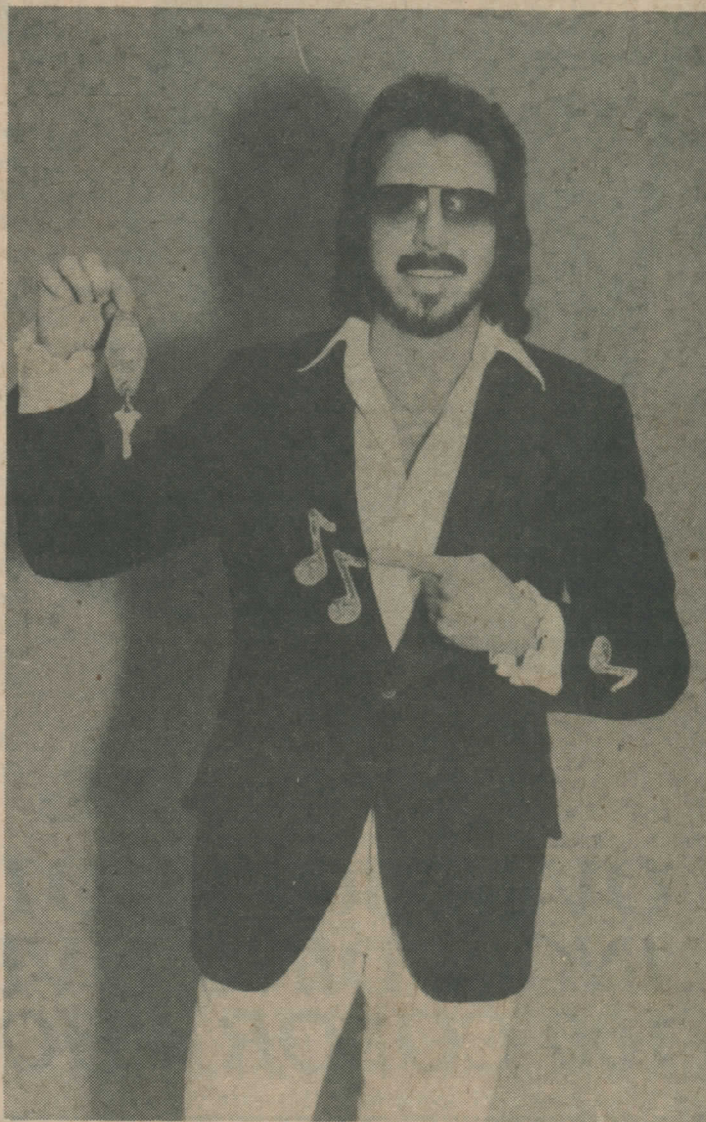
By Howard Walsdorff

Jimmy Hart is a dangerous man to oppose. The manager of the First Family, Jimmy Hart, has driven out rival managers, stolen talented wrestlers, made championship wrestlers out of unknowns and even made an alliance with the N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Champion against Jerry Lawler.

Jimmy Hart is a man to be reckon with as J.J. Dillon and Tojo Yamamoto know. Both were rival managers of Hart. Jimmy cleverly stole Kimala, the Uganda Great, and Kimala a member of his rulebreaking wrestlers known as the First Family. Using deceitful tactics, Hart managed to steal the tag-team of Fuchi & Onita, champions at that time, from rival Tojo Yamamoto, their manager. Presently Jackie Fargo and his creation of the Fabulous Ones (Stan Lane & Steve Kiern) are rivals of Jimmy Hart and his tag-team of the New York Dolls (Rick McGraw & the Dream Machine). Will Jackie Fargo become still another victim of Jimmy Hart?

Jimmy Hart even accomplished the amazing feat of acquiring the alliance of the N.W.A. World Heavyweight Champion, Ric Flair, the day he appeared on the CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING television program in Memphis, Tennessee. "I agreed to come to Memphis to give everybody a chance to see professional wrestling at its best," announced Flair. Jerry "The King" Lawler was on the set and attempted to persuade the champion to allow him (Lawler) to replace Rick McCord (Flair's opponent) in the upcoming T.V. match. "I could wrestle a broom for all they care," said Flair. "People are here to see Ric Flair." Without much hesitation, Flair agreed to a ten-minute one-fall T.V. match against Lawler. Lawler insisted on a title bout. Commentator Lance Russell gave Flair credit for not backing down to Lawler's challenge. Hart once even managed Lawler before the pair split after Lawler was out of action for a year due to an injury and Hart thought Lawler was through. Whether or not Jerry Lawler will admit it, his actions showed everyone that he knew how diabolical Jimmy Hart could be when recently Lawler temporarily reunited with his former manager Hart. The purpose of the reunion was to rid the territory of their mutual enemy J.J. Dillon. Once this task was accomplished, they broke up again. But the point is that Lawler knew that he needed Hart. Jimmy Hart and only Jimmy Hart could get the job done by joining forces with Jerry Lawler.

When the T.V. match between Flair & Lawler was over it ended in a draw. Flair was so furious that he demanded an additional five minutes and what the champion wanted, he got. After a few minutes, Flair took the belt and headed for the safety of the dressing room and was counted out. Lawler was angry and ranted and raved that he was the new champion and that he demanded the belt! Promoter Eddie Marlin settled the dispute by stating that it wasn't a title match after all since there wasn't any contract for one. Later on the show Ric Flair put his arm around Jimmy Hart before the TV cameras



and said, "This seems to be the only man in the whole town that I could look in the eye and believe. He's like me, he likes nice clothes, the good life, the soft touch of a pretty woman" and with emphasis he added, "he likes money." He gave Hart a check and said, "This is my personal check for \$10,000 because I want Jerry Lawler destroyed. I'll sign the check the day you deliver to me. I want to hear he's got a broken arm, broken leg, broken neck. I want to know he's no longer a professional wrestler. \$10,000 is just for openers." What was Hart's reaction? "For ten thousand dollars he might not be alive!", promised Hart.

Beware of Jimmy Hart! He's a dangerous man to oppose!

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Spotlight on Dewey Robertson

By K.J. Hobbs

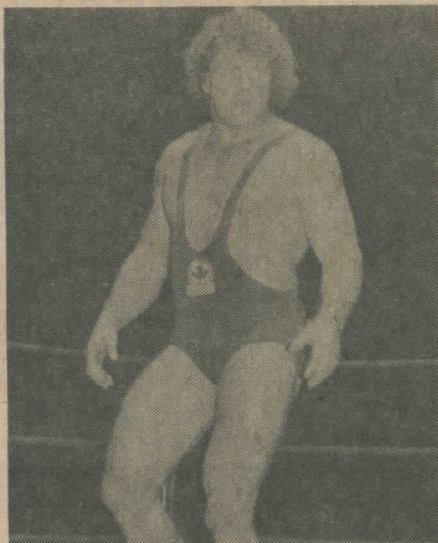
Dewey Robertson was born in the United States close to forty years ago. While a boy his family moved to Ontario, Canada and Dewey later became a Canadian citizen. Spending most of his life in Canada, he became very proud of the fact that he was a Canadian.

While working in a steel mill in Hamilton, Ontario, he found time to work out in a local gym. It may be there that his interest in wrestling began and when he had his first match at the CHCH-TV Telecenter at the age of nineteen against The Masked Yankee. He was easily beaten, weighing only 190, while the Yankee was 90 pounds heavier. Dewey joined a camp run by former N.W.A. Champion, Whipper Billy Watson. With Watson's help Dewey became one of the best young wrestlers in Canada.

The experience of being put into tag team matches by Toronto promoter Frank Tunney helped even more. He had several different partners in the likes of Watson, Lou Klein, Carlos Rocha, Bulldog Brower, Haystacks Calhoun, Tex McKenzie, Mighty Igor & Lord Athol Layton. Perhaps the one team that Robertson hated the most had to be The Love Brothers, Hartford & Reginald. The Love Brothers were the number one team in Ontario, and Dewey wanted nothing better than to beat the brothers from Boston. With Lord Layton he defeated teams such as Killer Joe Christie & Big Brutus, Chris Tolos & Lee Henning, and Hans Schmidt & Dan Miller. In fact it was Miller who gave Dewey what is said to be his most dangerous injury, a severe concussion, thanks to a chair Miller used. When it was time to beat the Love Brothers, Robertson & Layton could only manage a draw with them. Dewey also had many single matches against Big John Quinn, Angelo Mosca, Killer Kowalski & Johnny Valentine.

In 1973, Dewey Robertson, with help from Fred Atkins, went on a world tour of New Zealand, Australia and the U.S. While in the States he won the U.S. tag belts with Dennis Stamp and broke into a feud with The Spoiler in Houston, Texas.

In 1974, a masked wrestler called The Crusader and his manager John St. John came to Toronto. The



Crusader was a tall, strongly built man, standing 6'2 and weighing 225, dressed in white. He quickly became popular, winning matches over Lee Henning, Johnny Fargo, Greg Lake, and Eric (The Red) Hansen. On April 7th, The Crusader was to wrestle The Sheik for U.S. title. However, St. John was attacked by The Sheik and during the match The Sheik turned the Crusader's mask, Blinding him and winning the match. The Crusader unmasked, it was a much improved Dewey Robertson. In a rematch Robertson was disqualified for being too rough, something the fans weren't used to, but we're happy to see it against the hated Sheik.

The Love Brothers were still the top team in 1974, winning the International Championship in a tournament over the father and son team of Jacques & Raymond Rougeau. Robertson was still known as The Crusader and formed a team with Billy "Red" Lyons. They quickly became the top contenders, winning over Lee Henning & Chris Tolos, Kert Von Hess & Karl Von Schotz, and Ben Justice & Killer Tim Brooks. Robertson's dream of beating the Love Brothers came on July 21 when he and Lyons won the championship in Toronto. They defended the belts against Eric The Red & Mr. Fugy and the Loves. On October 6, the Loves won the title back. It was discovered that Dewey had cancer, so Dewey had a different battle ahead of him.

In 1975, fully recovered, Robertson rejoined Red Lyons and won the International title from the Love Brothers on May 11 in Toronto once again. A great comeback by Dewey, something the fans were not told about. About the same time Dewey opened a gym in Burlington, Ontario, and promoting his own cards. He helped to start the careers of Bob Markus and "Iron" Mike Sharpe.

On June 8, Robertson & Lyons lost the belts to the Kelly twins, Pat & Mike in Toronto. Robertson & Lyons wore masks and were known as The Crusaders. Fans had trouble telling the two apart and The Crusaders were hoping to trick the Kellys at their own game. They beat the twins in Toronto on August 24. They defended the title against The Samoans, Killer Krupp & Chris Tolos, and The Wildman & The Wolfman. In 1976 they stopped the likes of Reginald Love & Chris Tolos, and Mike Sharpe & Frank Hoffman. Rip Hawk & Swede Hansen have also tried to take the championship from them. During a match with the Kelly twins, Dewey broke his leg while trying to pin Pat Kelly with a sunset flip. Having his own gym paid off in his comeback. He and Lyons defended their belts against Reginald Love & Ox Baker, & Love & Bob Harman. The Fabulous Kangaroos, Al Costello & Don Kent also failed to beat the Crusaders.

In February 1977, The Crusaders lost the International belts to The Destroyer & Giant Baba while on tour in Japan. The team didn't wrestle often together. Robertson went into single matches winning over Don Kent, Chris Tolos, Terry Yorkston and Kim Chang. The Crusaders returned in 1978, but age as a factor for Lyons saw them lose to Lord Alfred Hayes & Super Destroyer-Mark II. Lyons didn't wrestle very much after this and told Dewey that former N.W.A. Champion Buddy Rogers was running a camp in North Carolina. Dewey joined Rogers and for the first time in his career was no longer popular with the fans. The reason of this was because Rogers was also managing Ken Patera, "Big" John Studd, Swede Hansen, and Jimmy Snuka. Robertson found himself

wrestling against Johnny Weaver, Rufus R. Jones and Jay Youngblood. On September 9, 1979, Dewey won the vacant Canadian Heavyweight Championship in a one night tournament over Ken Patera, Gene Kiniski and Greg Valentine. The Toronto fans were pleased, but when Rogers heard that Dewey had beaten Patera, he said that Dewey had turned his back on him, from there Rogers was out for Robertson's hide. While in the Mid-Atlantic, Dewey won the M.W. belts twice shortly with Weaver & Rufus R. Jones.

Again in Toronto, Robertson beat A.W.A. Champion Nick Bockwinkel in a non-title match on September 23. In a rematch for the A.W.A. title, three weeks later, he battled Bockwinkel to a draw. Dewey then defended the Canadian title against Ken Patera, Jimmy Snuka, Ray Stevens, The Destroyer, Gene Anderson and Greg Valentine. Because of the many bouts he was in, he decided to close his gym, having no time to run it. On April 13, 1980, he went to a draw with NWA champion Harley Race. Race was badly cut and was very lucky. Dewey got into some tag bouts, with Ric Flair. And with Blackjack Mulligan Sr. defeated The Masked Superstar & Big John Studd. Then back in the Mid-Atlantic, Dewey got into a feud with Jim Brunzell. And on November 25, he lost the Canadian title to Hossien The Arab (aka — The Iron Sheik). Unable to beat the Arab, Robertson returned to the Mid-Atlantic and again won the M.A. tag belts with George Wells for a short time. Dewey had a slump later in 1980, losing to Ray Stevens, Roddy Piper, Bobby Duncum and Greg Valentine.

In 1981 Robertson went to the Tri-State area. Taking the Tri-State title for a short time from Ron McFarlane and holding the tag belts with Rufus R. Jones. In 1982, he won the Centrel state tag belts with Steve Regal for awhile. In St. Louis, he got into a feud with Dick Murdoch as well as Roger Kirby and Jerry Blackwell. At the moment, Robertson has gotten into a feud with Mark Romero. He has recently fought with Dory Funk Jr. as well.

Dewey now makes his home in Kansas City, married to wife Gail and teenage sons, Mark & Jason. Many fans in Toronto are waiting for his return once again. In the meantime, perhaps Dewey Robertson will become a major threat to Missouri State champion, Harley Race and NWA Champion Ric Flair. We wish him luck.

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The British Wrestling News

By Evan R. Treharne



Dave Finley

At long last the vacant World Mid-Heavyweight title since the death of Mike Marion, has been decided, when Marty Jones won over the Frenchman, Bobby Gaetano, and this exciting bout is to be on British T.V. shortly. Jones already holds the British Lt. Heavyweight Belt at 14st.21lb. (198lb.) Whether he will hold on to his new crown as World Mid-Heavyweight champion, and let the British 198lb. title be fought for by the leading challengers at the weight, remains to be seen.

The subject of great discussion here, has been the pulling out of Big Daddy from the children's programme on I.T.V. television. The series was to be of 27 weekly sessions at a stated £500 a time, (over 1,000 dollars). Pulling out at the last minute, upset many of the younger children, as they had been looking forward tremendously to this weekly event. Big Daddy says this was forced on him following doctors orders, and a severe hammering he had received from 42st. (588 lb.) Giant Haystacks just previously.

50 THE WRESTLING NEWS

Dave Finley, won the British heavy-middleweight crown from deaf and dumb Alan Kilby, only to lose it back very soon afterwards during a very heated battle. Finley had found Kilby more than a match for him in their return, then he turned to rough tactics, but Kilby came out on top in the 7th. session by two falls to one.

It had been announced the winner would be matched against Marty Jones, thus it is on the cards for Jones to defend his title or titles as the case may be, against Alan Kilby in the near future.

Former European Middleweight Champion Mal Sanders, took all the stuffing out of the much heavier Gary Wensor, making a comeback after a long layoff. Sanders knocked out Wensor as early as the second round with a running dropkick.

Heavyweight, Wayne Bridges looking very fit, proved to be one too many for Skull Murphy, beating him by disqualification, when it appeared Bridges had the bout well in hand for a two-nil win. Murphy was ruled out for blatant punching with his fist to the body.

A tag match between Big Daddy and Pat Patton was won by them over Mal Kirk, 26st.(364lb.) and Scrubber Daley. Kirk took a fall over the 12st.(168lb.) Patton, but Big Daddy flattened both opponents with his usual 'Splosh!'

Marty Jones looking extremely fit and sun bronzed on his return from Japan when taking on heavyweight Tom Tyrone, with the bout ending in a no-contest, owing to Tyrone suffering an injured knee. Only recently before, Tyrone had given a great deal of trouble to "Giant" Pat Roach although being outweighed by some 5st. (70lb.)

Johnny Apollon, brother to Lee Bronson, won by two falls to one over the vastly more experienced Johnny Kidd.

Reports are Scrubber Daley scales 21st.(294lb.) and he was trained for wrestling by "Giant" Pat Roach. Previously, Daley was a Midlands Rugby League football player. So — from one contact sport to another.

Heavyweight, Ray Steele, drew against Kwik Kick Lee of Japan, over a hard fought eight rounds. The first fall

was to Lee in the third round by way of an overhead bodyslam followed by a crosspress pinfall. By the fifth Steele had equalised by a slam and pinfall. During the rest of the contest, they wrestled on equal terms, but both men were tiring fast from their exertions.

Tom Thumb a mere 5' high or low as you think fit, and 9st. (126lb.) faced up to Jim Breaks 11st.(154lb.) A neat reverse fall by Thumb to lead as early as the second round, but Breaks really put on the pressure, to equalise in the third session, using a straight arm lift to gain a submission.

Despite public warning against him, Breaks went on to win by yet another straight arm lift and submission in the following round, winning by two submissions to one fall.

The new television channel S4C here in Wales, now has its own wrestling series on Wednesday evenings at 7:30 pm. Already we have watched some really fine bouts taking place in North Wales. Orig Williams defeated the "Jamaica Kid" and World lightweight champion Johnny Saint won over Jackie Robinson in an all action bout. Afterwards, Robinson challenged Johnny Saint for a title bout. "The Mighty Chang" was far too heavy for the gallant Irishman Kevin Coneely, but Kevin made a fine showing and the crowd gave him every support. Tony St. Clair, holder of the British version of the World Heavyweight title, defeated Dave Taylor a young man 6'2" and 16st.7lb. (231lb.) Dave comes from a good wrestling family, as he has two wrestling brothers, plus his dad Eric Taylor, still holds a British title belt on the Independent circuit.

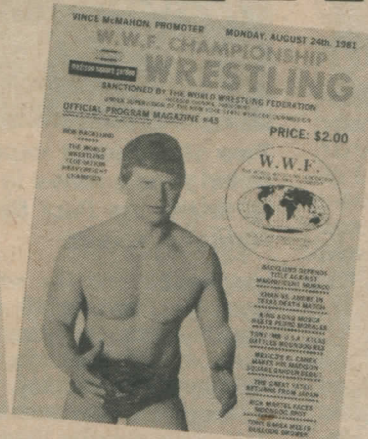
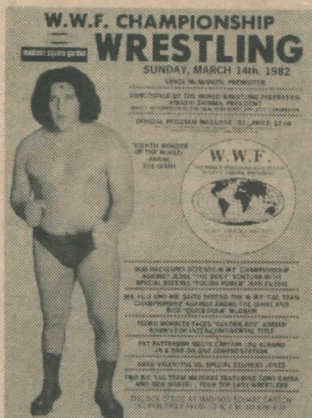
Announcements by the M.C. are all in the Welsh language, spoken fluently, but the referee's being English, count in a very stilted Welsh, as this must be the first time in their lives to attempt speaking the language.

The new St. David's Leisure Centre Hall, has held its first wrestling tournament at Cardiff. This new building is fine for such events, and will hold 2,000 spectators, but it was far from being full, thus we shall have to wait to see if Joint Promotions will venture there again. The cost of renting the hall for an evening is bound to be rather high.

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THE EUROPEAN WRESTLING NEWS

By Gerhard Schafer

The first highlight of the season in Germany was the annual mammoth tournament in Hanover which lasted 53 days. Nearly eight weeks the fans from Hanover and the surrounding area watched wrestling each evening. Over the years the tournament attendance was between 120 to 150,000 spectators, but this year the attendance was not as good as the preceding years. The reason could have been the uncertain economic situation in the country with so many unemployed. Even the people employed are not able to spend as much as before during this severe recession the first in Germany in recent memory.

The promoter, Heinrich Kaiser from Hanover, had done everything to make the tournament a success. He, a master of organization, had booked a field of interesting entrants, many well known leading matmen as well as some new faces. Although some people missed stars like Salvatore Bellomo, Pat Roach and Bob "UFO" Dillaserra, the promoter had Klaus Kauroff, Moose Morowski, Axel Dieter, John Quinn, Ed Wiskoski, Billy Samson and Klaus Wallas names, which were good enough to provide sold out halls. Besides these top-men there were many experienced wrestlers among the competitors like Steve Wright and Mile Zrno, both masters in the art of wrestling and probably the leading ones in Europe in outstanding technical ability. Caswell Martin from the West Indies and the Japanese Mighty Inoue were also popular as was Eddy Steinblock from Bremen, Germany's most hopeful newcomer. Oldtimer Grand Vladimir, unpopular Yasu Fuji and Karl Dauberger from Austria proved to be tough competitors while Joerg Chenok and Manuel Lopez were popular but not heavy enough for this field of strong and powerful opponents. Also active was Paco Ramirez, like Lopez another Spaniard. For the amusing part we had Adrian Street, who interrupted his stay in California to compete in Hanover. He is already booked for the next year's competition. The field was completed by Toni Kosic from Austria and Butcher Brannigan from the States, a tag team partner of Moose Morowski. Later entered Tony St. Clair, one of Great Britain's leading matmen, he participated for three weeks. Also Germany's former judo ace Michael Schneider was seen in some bouts.

While promoter Heinrich Kaiser attended to the organization of the famous tournament it was Peter William, who as the matchmaker was



Two of the most important people behind the scenes in wrestling in Germany are Paul Berger and Heinrich Kaiser.

responsible for the wrestling part. It was his function to arrange all the evenings interesting cards, to allure the fans to the hall. In addition Peter William was the top referee and an authority in and outside the ring. To introduce popular Peter William to the fans, I should say that he has been connected with wrestling for his whole life. As a school-boy he watched in his native-town Berlin the former famous tourneys and admired such top starslike "The Strangler" (Hans Waldherr), unforgettable Yvar Martinson from Paris and the arrogant Rene Lasartesse, a top attraction for many years. Later he entered the ranks of pro wrestling, did a little wrestling, but was more useful as a referee and matchmaker. Outside of Germany Peter William worked as a referee, especially in title bouts as the special referee. He has also made several trips to the States and Canada and today rates as one of the leading personalities of wrestling in Europe. Some time ago he was interested in motion pictures and was occasionally worked as an actor, but numerous times a stuntman and very often the double of the famous Curt Juergens, the world-wide known actor who died this year.

Peter William did well and had many outstanding cards, especially with the overcrowded hall for the bout for the European title (VDB-version) between holder Klaus Kauroff and revenge inspired Axel Dieter. The latter won the hard bout in round nine and is now the European title-holder. The sometimes unsatisfactory attendance is not the fault of the promoter or the matchmaker. Competing in the immediate

area was the huge soccer stadium, a fair, and the performances of three different circuses during the period of the tournament at the same place was too much for the population from Hanover and their purse.

Nevertheless the fans liked to watch their annual wrestling and in course of the tourney the question had priority who would win this year the world known famous Hanover tournament. The rough Canadian Moose Morowski was one of the leading contenders for the win but shortly before the final day the promoter sent him home, the reason was a car crash of his next of kin. Klaus Kauroff from Hanover, winner of the WORLD CUP last year, looked once more as the probable winner after he defeated all his opponents. He was one of the finalists. The decision for the other finalist was taken the next to the last day. John Quinn and ambitious Axel Dieter entered the ring for this bout. It was the awaited hard bout as both men were eager to become the winner. But John Quinn, the strong Canadian, avenged himself for the defeat last year and pinned the ambitious German.

Klaus Kauroff, the hero from Hanover, his native-town, and John Quinn, the mighty Canadian, were the last pair to wrestle for the victory of the tournament and the trophy, the valuable Grand Prix, "WORLD CUP." It was a hard struggle. Kauroff, billed "the steam hammer from Garbsen," was a true champion and cheered by the crowd an equal opponent to the strongman from overseas. The bout lasted more than thirty minutes as Quinn looked for the decision. With many forearm whips he floored Kauroff until the eight count, some head butts followed, and with a cross buttock Quinn won the bout. There was big applause for Kauroff despite his defeat but also applause for the winner and his outstanding performance. Mostly unpopular for his rough style the crowd could not but recognize him as a deserving winner.

Axel Dieter, hero of many outstanding battles in this town, was more successful than before in Vienna. This time he gained a third rank a head of the hated Austrian Klaus Wallas, who finished this likewise in the Viennese tourney. Wallas, a former famous judo-fighter and military world-champion, is not yet perfect in wrestling, but he is a very strong lad and his rough style and strength permitted him to win most of his bouts.

The final evening was opened with a

pretty good wrestling demonstration from Steve Wright, who pinned the unpopular Japanese Yasu Fuji. Butcher Brannigan was too experienced for Eddy Steinblock as Ed Wiskoski was too rough for ever ready Caswell Martin. Two popular ones were Billy Samson and Mile Zrno, with the much heavier Samson gaining the verdict.

Wallas and Billy Samson shared rank four. A big success for Steve Wright was his sixth rank together with Ed Wiskoski from Texas. Wright was undoubtedly the best skilled wrestler in the field, but he is too light for the heavy competition. Nevertheless Wright would be a sensation in the States with his knowledge of wrestling, but he will not leave the continent as he wants to stay with his family. Therefore he passed up a first offer from the A.W.A., where real wrestlers have a chance to make a real name for themselves.

The final ratings from Hanover:

1. John Quinn (Canada)
2. Klaus Kauroff (Germany)
3. Axel Dieter (Germany)
4. Klaus Wallas (Austria) & Billy Samson (Columbia)
6. Ed Wiskoski (USA) & Steve Wright (England)
8. Caswell Martin (West Indies)

Tag-team ratings:

1. Billy Samson & Caswell Martin
2. Ed Wiskoski & Klaus Wallas
3. Axel Dieter & Eddy Steinblock
4. Butcher Brannigan & Yasu Fuji
5. Steve Wright & Mile Zrno
6. Mighty Inoue & Karl Dauberger

Honored with trophies were Eddy Steinblock as the most fair wrestler, Caswell Martin the most technical, and Mile Zrno as the top crowd pleaser.

Another tournament was finished the same day in Hamburg, which lasted nearly six weeks. The capacity of the tent-building was half that of Hanover. Promoter Sven Hansen was satisfied with the attendance, there were more spectators than in the years before. This although the competitors mostly didn't belong to the world famous class, they are mostly known on the continent.

As in the years before was evergreen Rene Lasartesse, the arrogant, and huge Frenchman, the drawing-card. He and well like Belgian Franz van Buyten had many struggles with each other which always filled the hall. Both wrestlers made the final bout and this time Franz van Buyten was the more fortunate, he pinned the colossus and became a popular winner of the tourney.

The final day saw first hopeful Marc Mercier from France the winner against France based Peruvian Inca Wiracocha. Billy White Cloud, an Indian from the British scene stopped veteran Angel Grey, another Peruvian.

Joerg Chenok from Hanover surprised with his win about Rasputin II from Ireland. Two South Americans were next, Rolo Brasil from Brazil prevailed over Indio Guajaro from Columbia, and from the two Englishmen David Taylor and tattooed Dave Viking had Taylor finishing on the better end. The baldheaded strongman Iwan Strongoff, billed from Russia, was another famous matmen in the field. Fans had missed him for a long time in Germany but he demonstrated that he still was one of the continent's leading matmen. His opponent the final day was London based Johnny Kincaid, an experienced and popular wrestler. But he became another victim of the Russian. The cheers of the crowd could not help him against powerful Strogoff.

The final standings:

- | | |
|---------------------|----------|
| 1. Franz van Buyten | Belgium |
| 2. Rene Lasartesse | France |
| 3. Iwan Strogoff | Belgium |
| 4. Dave Viking | England |
| 5. Johnny Kincaid | England |
| 6. Rolo Brasil | Brazil |
| 7. Dave Taylor | England |
| 8. Indio Guajaro | Columbia |

Others in the field were popular Bobby Gaetano from France and Joerg Chenok from Germany. The son of the promoter tried to enter the wrestling field, but without amateur background he lost his first bouts.

Next comes Nicola Selenkowitsch, Germany's renowned promoter, who starts his next season. With him is the Austrian colossus Otto Wanz, who was for a short time AWA-title-holder after he pinned champ Nick Bockwinkel in the States. Highlight of the season will be Dec. 18 in Bremen where Otto Wanz defends his title (CWA-version) against Sgt. Slaughter. Amongst the spectators will be famous American matman Karl Gotch, who will hopefully book some continentals for overseas. Nico Selenkowitsch announced the following wrestlers in his first tourney at Dortmund: Buck Zum Hofe and Jerry Novak (USA), Masao Ito (Japan), Klaus Wallas (Austria), Caswell Martin (West Indies), John Harris (Australia), Rasputin II (Ireland), David Taylor, John Cox, Giant Haystacks, Johnnu South, Steve Casey and Steve Wright (all Great Britain), and Wolfgang Satuski and Eddy Steinblock from Germany.

Arpad Weber was jinxed again, he can't finish most of his tournaments since the attendance is too small. Last tournament in Bochum saw 60 spectators at the start in Bochum. His wrestlers were Hans Roocks, Crusher Verdu, Jacky and Gerard Meurs, Arpad Weber, Henry London, Michel Debyser and Fernand Bawin. After one evening with so few spectators he gave up. But he will continue in spite of financial losses.

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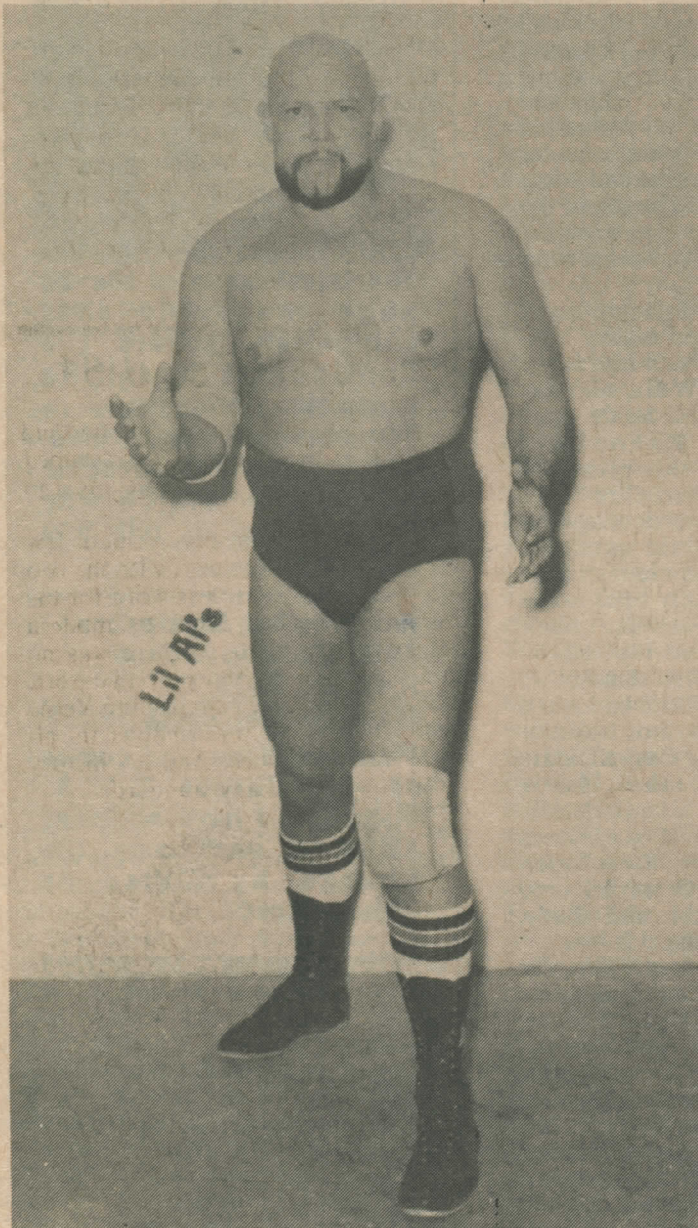
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WRESTLING MAGAZINE 53

THE KURT VON HESS STORY

By Doug Chambers

He has wrestled as a single and in many tag-team matches over the years and his partners have included Sigfreid Stanke, "Big" John Quinn, Karl Von Shotz, "Crazy" Luke Graham, Karl Von Heller, and Randy Colley. "Karl Von Shotz and I were partners for the longest time, about three years, and I was teamed with John Quinn in Vancouver, and we also teamed to win a big tag-team tournament in Tokyo in 1976. John has been living and wrestling in England for the past few years so we haven't had a chance to team up again." In 1974 he and Von Shotz held the tag title in southern California, but dropped it in a torrid match against Antonio Inoki and Seiji Sakaguchi in Los Angeles. He and Von Shotz were also feuding with Joe LeDuc and his various partners in the south a couple of years ago, and the result was some very bloody confrontations.



The competition gets tougher every year and Von Hess takes his business very seriously. Training sessions take place five times a week and consist of calisthenics, weightlifting, and swimming. Kurt watches his diet and seems to have taken a leaf from the book of the Japanese Sumo wrestlers as he generally eschews red meat in favor of chicken or fish, and also enjoys salads and baked potatoes — a healthy meal brimming with protein and carbohydrates. "This is the era of guys like Flair, Steamboat, Backlund and Snuka," he claims, "men who have dropped down around 230 to 240 pounds and are giving up some size for more speed and endurance. A guy like Backlund trains hard nearly every day and would be listless if he couldn't get to the gym regularly."

His own contribution to the philosophy of trading bulk for speed and endurance is to keep his weight around 240 on a six foot one inch frame, although he will go up to 260 pounds for overseas tours when the visitors often wrestle every night in a different city.

This serious training probably saves a lot of injuries, but Kurt has suffered his share of damage besides the usual cuts and bruises common to the sport. A few years ago he ripped the tendons in his left knee and wrestled for six months wearing a knee-brace. Once in Trinidad, in a vicious fight with Carlos Colon, he was thrown into a corner and struck his face on the corner post, breaking his nose and opening a deep gash on his nose and across his cheek. On his recent Japanese visit he tore a triceps muscle while grappling with "Jumbo" Tsuruta — an injury which is healing very slowly. Still, he continued to fulfill the 28 contracted matches on a month long visit, and spent many of his leisure hours relaxing his arm in the whirlpool bath at Clark Hatch's gym.

Even when he isn't working Kurt still enjoys traveling, and once toured Japan for six weeks, then hopped a jet to South Africa where he campaigned for three more weeks before flying home. He also enjoys reading, watching pro football, and playing euchre, and likes to spend time with his lovely wife Cathy and their two daughters. The family is currently residing in Canada and they no longer travel with him as much because the girls are reaching an age where education is important, and their proud father doesn't want to interfere with school time.

What does the future hold for Von Hess and what are his immediate plans? "I plan to continue wrestling and at the moment I'm working out with a promising young guy who may well become a professional in the future," he says, "and after a few weeks of relaxing and resting my arm, I'll be on the road agin. Oh, and I'll probably be going to South Africa again in the Spring."

During his years in the sport the goateed tough guy has faced the top men in the business and when questioned about the opposition he mentions a number of men who have greatly impressed him. Some of the names listed were Ric Flair, Ernie Ladd, Rick Steamboat, Rocky Johnson, Leo Burke, and "quite a few other men."

When the black-clad man in the yellow wrestling boots enters an arena he is invariably greeted with the jeers and insults of the crowd, and it causes him little concern. His violent, juggernaut approach to tactics infuriates the throng

and whoever he faces immediately becomes the fan's favorite. Kurt Von Hess has seen it all before and he doesn't care if the fans like him. He plans to be around for a long, long time.

When Kurt Von Hess entered Benny Lima's gym in Canada in 1967 he was interested in becoming a professional wrestler, and willingly joined in an open "scrimmage" on the mats featuring a number of young wrestlers and weightlifters. Even with an amateur wrestling background he was unprepared for this level of competition and ended up laying unconscious on the mat.

Undismayed, he started serious training with Lima and also engaged in bodybuilding and weightlifting to increase his weight and strength. In 1969 Lima decided his charge had absorbed all the training he needed to make it in the sport, and they lined up his first paid, professional match. It was a ten-minute televised match on CFTO Channel 9 from Toronto, and the eager rookie held the experienced Ivan Koloff to a draw. The "Russian Bear" was nearly 300 pounds in those days, and Kurt used his speed to stay out of the Russian's grasp. "I've reminded Koloff about that match since then," he admits with a smile, "but he really doesn't like to hear about it."

That same year the fans in New York and Ohio were introduced to a rugged, young matman with a shaved scalp, piercing blue eyes, and a cavalier disregard for the rulebook. He toured for Pedro Martinez throughout the N.W.F. territory and appeared in such cities as Buffalo, Utica, Albany, and Cleveland, and held the International tag-team title with the late Eric the Red (struck by a car in Florida and fatally injured several years ago).

Since that time, nearly fourteen years ago, Kurt has scarcely changed his brawling, fast-paced ring style but he is now a

seasoned veteran who has campaigned throughout the U.S. and Canada, the Caribbean, Japan, and South Africa. When questioned about the North American regions he has visited, Von Hess hesitates then says, "I think I've wrestled for just about every promoter from Don Owens in Portland and Mike LeBell in California right across the country and down into Florida. In Canada I wrestled for Sandor Kovacs when he promoted British Columbia, Stu Hart in Alberta, Tunney in Toronto, and quite a few other people, too."

In 1974 Von Hess embarked on his first overseas tour — a visit to Japan. He completed his sixth visit to Japan this past summer and admits to being highly impressed with the country and the Japanese competition he has faced both there and in the United States. He mentions names such as "Jumbo" Tsuruta, Shohei Baba, Mr. Hito, and Antonio Inoki. A couple of months before the Japanese sojourn he completed his second tour of South Africa, and is fulsome in his praise for the massive South African champion, Jan Wilkens. His first South African tour was arranged by Fred Majors, a colorful manager from Montreal who arranged visits to the Republic by such men as Don Leo Jonathon, Gilles "the fish" Poisson, and Von Hess. Majors has since passed away, but he was still arranging grappling tours when he was in his 70's.

Kurt loves travel and has moved his family around the country, although their longest stop was an eighteen-month period when they lived near Atlanta, Georgia. From this home base he appeared throughout the South, visiting the Mid-Atlantic region, Georgia, Florida, the Gulf Coast territory, and the Mid-South areas of Louisiana and Mississippi. His family enjoyed the southern sunshine and beaches, and the friendly people, and it was one of the happiest times of his career.

U.S. Heavyweight Championship Continued from Page 51

Welles did very well on top, knocking off Peter Maivia, Ernie Ladd and Takachiho (Great Kabuki). In July of 1980, Welles was upset by Ed Wiskoski. Wiskoski held the title until September 16th, when Ron Starr returned to the Cow Palace and pinned him.

It was history repeating itself on October 13th, as Bob Sweetan returned after a ten month absence and pinned Starr.

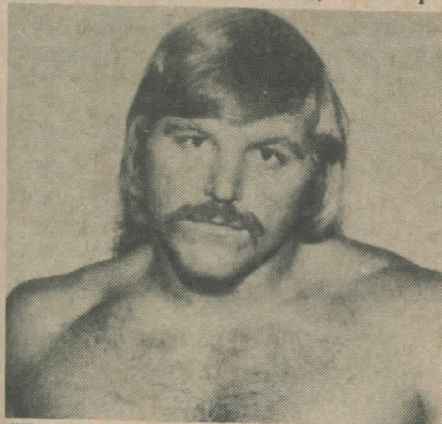
Crowds at the Cow Palace, which had normally topped 10,000, had drop-

ped down below 2,000 by this time. In an effort to return wrestling's audience, Shire negotiated with another N.W.A. promotion and began showing the T.V. show taped in Tampa, Florida. Also at this time Sweetan was stripped of the title. On November 8th, the two top contenders, Dusty Rhodes and Dick Slater met, with "The American Dream" winning the title.

On December 27, 1980 Dusty Rhodes came down the aisle wearing the U.S. championship for the last time. He and arch-rival Ole Anderson

wrestled one of the most exciting and bloodiest title bouts ever, stopped because both men were bleeding too badly.

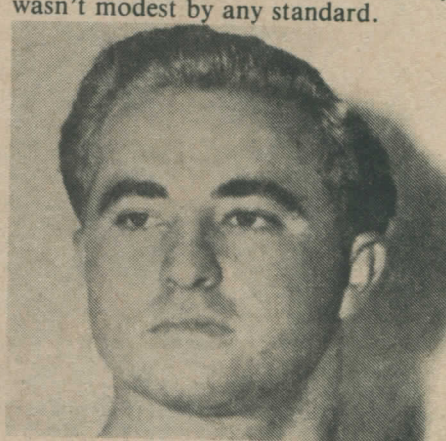
Shire retired from promoting a few weeks later. The title belt, with the two little American flags, was worn for the last time. The belt itself, by modern standards was modest. There was no gold buckle or anything of that sort. But it was the same belt given to Verne Gagne that ended up worn down the aisle by Dusty Rhodes. And it's history wasn't modest by any standard.



"Easy" Ed Wiskoski



Dusty Rhodes



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56 THE WRESTLING NEWS

Japanese Wrestling News

By Koichi Yoshizawa

As we have mentioned in the past, there are three major wrestling promotions active in Japan. One is called the W.W.W.A. (All Japan Women Wrestling). Their recognized champion is Jagar Yokota, who recently won a hard fought title defense match over Wendi Richter, The Dallas Cowgirl. They also have a Pacific Title, which Mimi Hagiwara won from Judy Martin, who had earlier beaten Yukari Omori for the crown.

Taran Chura and Devil Masami are this promotions tag team champions, and Noriyo Tatsuno is their junior champion. Other lady wrestlers recently active for this promotion have included: Yukari Omori, Liones Asuka, Masked Yu, Nagayo, Matsumoto, and coming in from England — Klondike Kate.

Another of the three promotions is "New Japan Pro Wrestling," which is headed by promoter Hisashi Shimma, who is also the president of the W.W.F. Recently this promotion completed its third annual Madison Square Garden tag team tournament. The winners of this big event were the duo of Hulk Hogan and Antonio Inoki.

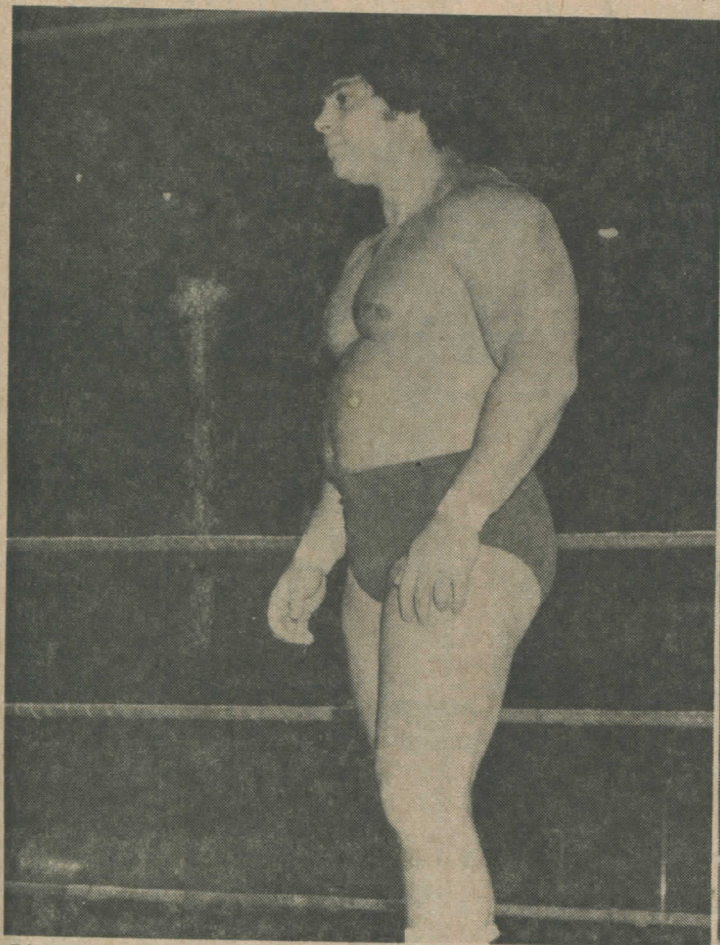
Other top stars for this promotion include: Tiger Mask, the W.W.F. Junior Heavyweight Champion (he also holds the N.W.A. honors), Seiji Sakaguchi, Tatsumi Fujinami, the International Heavyweight Champion, Killer Khan, Riki Choshu, Tiger Toguchi (Kim Duk), Yoshiaki Yatsu, El Gran Hamada, Kantaro Hoshino, Kengo Kimura, Osamu Kido,

Haruka Eigen, Yoshiaki Fujiwara, Makoto Arakawa, Kuniaki Kobayashi, Nobuichi Nakano, Nobuo Honoga, Fumihiko Nikura, Nobuhiko Takada, Shunji Kosuji, and Kazuo Yamazaki. Besides all these wrestlers, others such as Adrian Adonis, Dino Bravo, Andre The Giant, Rene Goulet, Dick Murdoch, The Masked Superstar, Young Samson, El Canek, Pero Aguayo, Rusher Kimura, and Animal Hamaguchi have wrestled on recent N.J.P.W. cards.

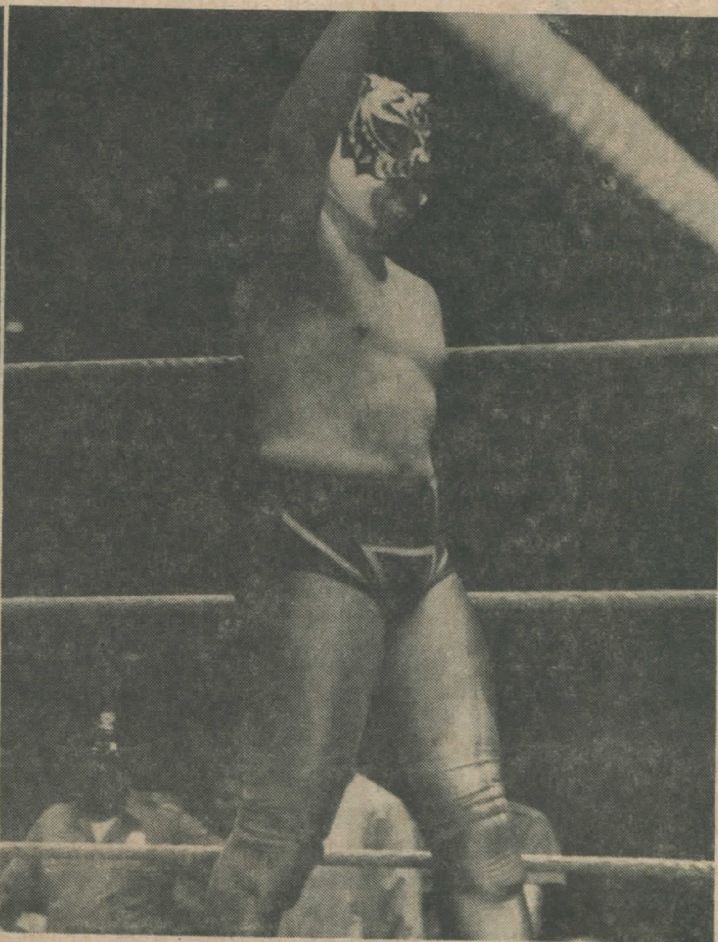
The third active Japanese promotion is All Japan Pro Wrestling," which is headed by Lord James Blears. Their current Pacific Wrestling Federation Champion is Harley Race, with former champion Giant Baba being his number one contender. They also recognize an International Champion, but in this promotion he is Bruiser Brody. Brody as of late has been feuding with Jumbo Tsuruta, Jimmy Snuka, and Terry and Dory Funk Jr. for those honors.

This promotion also is holding a tag team tournament with wrestlers including Ricky Steamboat, Jay Youngblood, The Super Destroyer, United National Champion Jumbo Tsuruta, Umanosuka Ueda, Tenryu, Ashura Hara, Rocky Hata, and International Junior Heavyweight Champion Astsushi Onita, who won those honors from Chavo Guerrero.

Following the tag team tournament a new series will be starting with other top wrestlers including Mil Mascaras, Tiger Jeet Singh, and Tor Kamata.



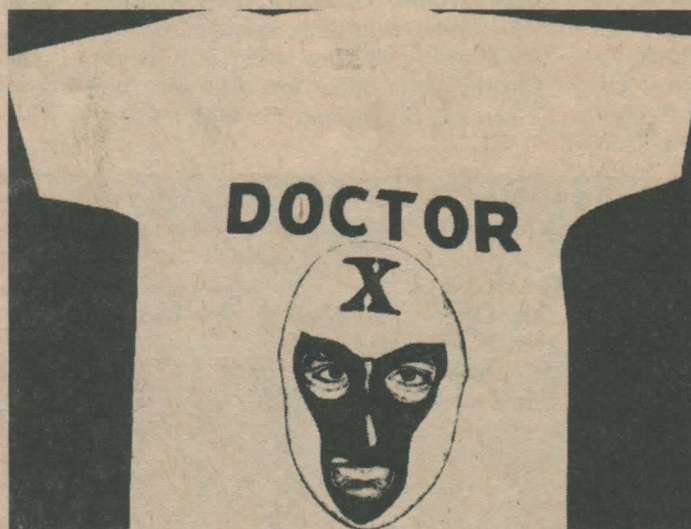
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THE NEW ZEALAND WRESTLING NEWS

By Dave Cameron

The 1982 season here had its ups and downs, but generally was pretty successful. The country towns had many sellout houses when spot show were promoted, and the general standard of wrestling in New Zealand was quite high.

Coming home towards the end of the season was former N.W.A. World's Heavyweight Champion Pat O'Connor, our own star who settled in the United States in the early Fifties. Making only his third visit back home, and now in the veteran class, Pat still impressed all that attended his recent New Zealand bouts, with his wide variety of holds and counters. His bouts against Al Perez were outstanding, and fought in a sporting manner. O'Connor helped Perez break into the sport of professional wrestling, so it was clearly a case of trying to decide who was the superior wrestler at this point, the teacher or the student?

As I write this Pat intends to stay in New Zealand for awhile and visit with his mother and brother. This marks the first time he has been able to spend the holidays with his mother, since the early Fifties.

King Kamaka and General Hiro teamed up to make a pretty formidable tag team combination, but their tactics did not always meet everybody's ap-

proval. Their toughest opposition came from the popular duo of Mark Lewin and Steve Rickard.

Giant Ox Baker, here for his second wrestling tour of New Zealand, proved to be a tough customer for the up and coming youngsters of the mat. When he was last in New Zealand he was featured in a T.V. Wilkinson Razor commercial. Ox's efforts at face smoothing helped the commercial win an international Clio award.

Bruno Bekkar had a good year after a disastrous start in Puerto Rico, where he suffered a broken leg. He is currently on another trip to Singapore. An extremely talented wrestler, Bruno would like to spend some time wrestling in the United States.

Samoa Joe, a vastly improved wrestler, has benefited from meeting the likes of Ox Baker and King Kamaka, and is presently touring Malaysia.

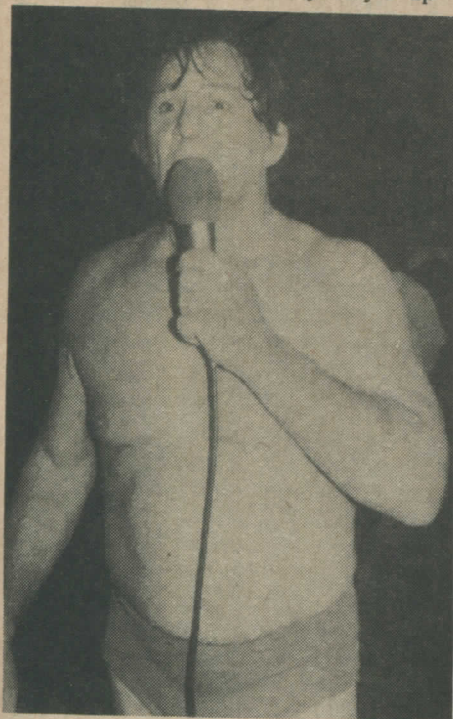
Lu Leota is back in action after a broken leg suffered last year, and is now in extremely fine shape. He looks like he will be a fine wrestler for many years to come.

Recently in New Zealand was lady wrestler Paulette De Giret. The Hungarian born, French educated Paulette was here to promote her book, "The Unbeatable Loser." The

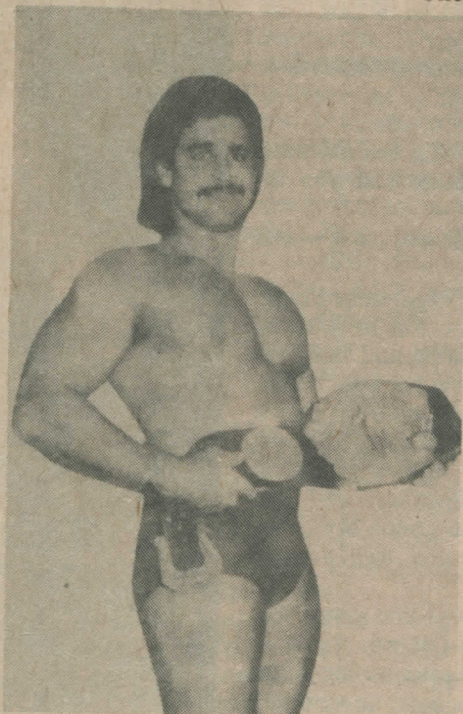
book is an autobiography telling of her wrestling, and her hardships to reach her goals. Paulette now lives in Melbourne, Australia. Anyone interested in contacting her can write to her at: P.O. Box 163, Glenroy 3046, Victoria, Australia.

Al Perez has certainly been a sensation here in New Zealand. In his opening match, seen here on T.V., he captured the Commonwealth belt by picking up the giant Ox Baker in an airplane spin, and then going on to gain the pin. Fans young and old alike love Perez's style, and he is sure to return to N.Z. for next year's season.

Others who have competed here have included Tommy Cheung, Johnny Garcia, Juno Hovia, Tama Sasa, Peter Lauder, Shane O'Rourke, Ale Tuhinger, Bob Crozier, and Al Hobman. In New Zealand and it becomes too hot to hold wrestling indoors during the months of December, January, and February, but fans are already anxiously looking forward to the start of the new season. Promoters have been negotiating for some New Zealand appearances by N.W.A. Heavyweight Champion "Nature Boy" Ric Flair.



Pat O'Connor

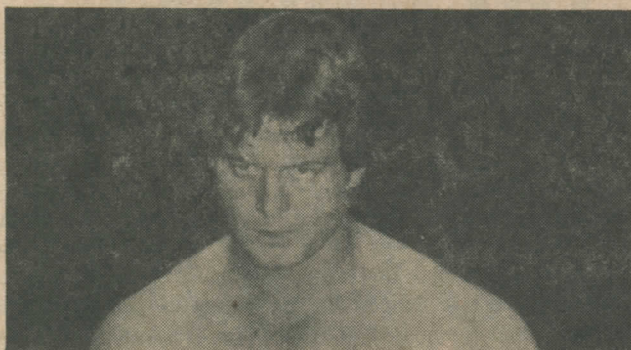


Al Perez



Paulette DeGiret

Roddy Piper Continued from Page 33



It seems Piper was upset with the whole Brisco family as, on May 19, while Jerry Brisco was trying for a submission on Tony Russo with a figure four leg lock, Roddy ran out to the ring, climbed to the top turnbuckle and splashed onto the entangled Brisco. Jerry was injured, as intended, but Russo's leg was broken.

Still illegally holding the Mid Atlantic Belt, Piper agreed to fight Jack for it if Brisco put up \$10,000 along with the belt. This match took place on July 7 and Roddy won it and paid his fine with the \$10,000. Reports were that he used a roll of pennies on Brisco and there were coins all over the ring, but Piper claimed that a fan had tossed them in.

On August 3, 1982, Roddy and Jack met in another title match and this time Brisco was the victor.

After this match, Sir Oliver Humperdink approached Piper and offered him a contract, telling him that he never would have lost if Humperdink had been in his corner. Piper tore up the contract.

RP: Ah, he stinks! Little Rooster running around being an idiot! I have no time for him. He has nothing to offer me. I don't need nobody!

KL: Recently, in Mid Atlantic, you've been doing some one time teaming with some old arch enemies like Wahoo and Brisco, what's behind that?

RP: It was strictly money. They asked me to. Don't trust them. Strictly money.

KL: So there's no real attitude change or style change going on?

RP: No.

KL: Back in Georgia in the early fall of 1982, Don Muraco was brow beating and pushing Gordon Solie and you intervened, why?

RP: I just said "wait a second" and he hit me, what would you do?

What HE did was attack Muraco and they had to be dragged apart by the other wrestlers. A few days later in Atlanta, Piper entered the ring during Muraco's match and hung his jacket on the ring post. When Don tried to sucker punch him, Roddy decked him with a roll of quarters, put on his jacket and left the ring. The next week on T.V. Piper said, "So Mr. Muraco, if you think that in front of 25 million people at home, that you're gonna backhand me downhere and take after a gentleman like this (Solie) that I'm gonna lay down there and go Ar! Ar! Ar! like a little puppy dog, well, you are WRONG, Jack! I ain't that kind of man!"

Although this time Ole Anderson came out and demanded that Piper apologize for hitting him when Ole was trying to separate Roddy and Muraco a couple of weeks earlier. Piper told him that if he had minded his own business, he wouldn't have been hit. Ole demanded an apology and Roddy said,

"It's very simple. I want to tell you really nice because I know you're a very strong man. You're strong as an ox and you're almost as smart! I am NOT apologizing!" Ole grabbed for him and Piper belted him.

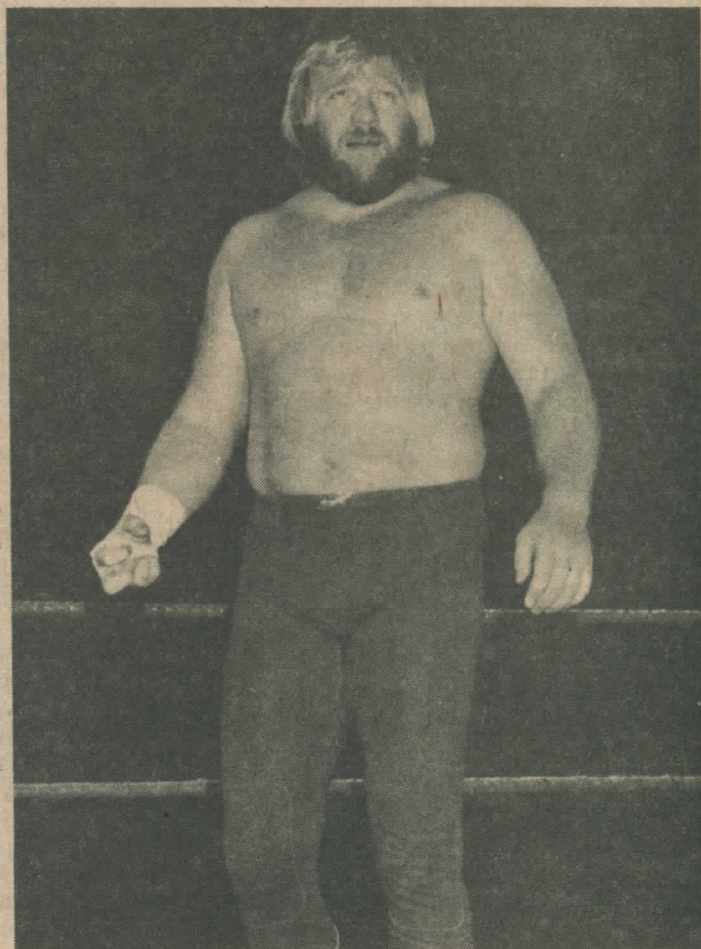
RP: As usual, here I am right in the middle. Nobody cares about me. Nobody likes me. Well, that's just fine, brother! I don't take nothing from nobody! I ain't on nobody's side! You try running roughshod over me and you'll find out, brother, I spit back! The only difference is, I spit fire!

The fans are cheering Piper now and he's fighting his former friends. But, in reality, it's only circumstances that are changing. The man himself remains constant both in his goals, "Eating! Eating! Eating!" and in his attitude and ringstyle.

RP: My ringstyle is extremely aggressive, just by being myself. I don't really care about anybody. Screaming and yelling does not bother me because I don't have time to concentrate on screaming and yelling. I only have time to concentrate on what I'm doing in the ring. I'll fight anybody they put in front of me. I'm trying to get a shot at the World Heavyweight Champion. He won't fight me. My ringstyle is obviously too aggressive for him. So if it's too aggressive for him, it must be too aggressive for everybody!

Hot Rod, the Lean Mean Machine does what's best for Roddy Piper. He aims to soar with the eagles, not scratch with the chickens. He may lose a battle now and then, but never the war!

Love him or hate him, you have to admit, he's one of those guys that just won't quit! You'd have to kill him to beat him! He gives it his best shot, or he don't even shoot! That's just the way he is!



"BIG" JOHN STUDD

Area Closeups

(Continued from page 20)

THE INDEPENDENTS

As we have pointed out in previous issues, this section is devoted to smaller promotions that do not belong to one of the four major promotional groups already covered. We simply list these other promotions as independent because they aren't affiliated with other promotional organizations. This does not imply that they are inferior to the ones listed earlier. In many cases some of the big name wrestlers working for the four major organizations also appear on the cards of the independent promotions. Our coverage is limited to how much actual information is received on the various promotions each month. It is our attempt and purpose to try and cover everyone who is involved actively in the sport of professional wrestling.

GLOBAL WRESTLING

ALLIANCE: This promotion runs small cards in the Philadelphia, Pa. area. Promoter Art Palmer wrote to tell us that recently he has had J.R. Hogg, Wolfgang Von Heller, Jerry & Johnny Valiant, "Pretty Boy" Larry Sharpe, Ron Shaw, Ken Jugan, Ed Bonzo, Kenny Sullivan, Stan Lavdis, Mad Dog Marino, and Juan Vasquez on his shows. This promotion runs without the benefit of a regular T.V. show, and at the present time there was no mention of recognized champions.

OHIO CHAMPIONSHIP

WRESTLING: This fairly new promotion is doing quite well in the Cleveland area. I will be visiting promoter Henry R. Robinson in the very near future, and will be attending a number of cards, so look for more in-depth reporting on this promotion in the very near future. Bobo Brazil is the current Ohio State Champion. Others recently active for this promotion include: Jerry Valiant, Luis Martinez, J.R. Hogg, Zoltan The Great, Rocco Verona, Jim Jett, J.W. Hawk, Bobby Colt, Six Shot Williams, The Gambler, Wolfgang Von Heller, Ed Bonzo, Larry Winters, and Lady wrestlers Candi Divine and Diane Von Hoffman.

EASTERN WRESTLING

ALLIANCE: As reported in the past this is one of several promotions running cards regularly in the Carolinas. Johnny Hunter is recognized by this promotion as Eastern U.S. Heavyweight Champion, and Brute Bernard is the Brass Knucks Champion. Others wrestling for this promotion recently have been Kenny Hunter, The Infernos, Jim Gallagher, Bob



Jerry Valiant

Stabler, Johnny Fields, The Blue Demon, Jim Tucker, Rick Benfield, Cliff Thomas, Doug Fargo, The Texas Menace, Joe DeCarlo, Pink Graham, and The Scufflin Hillbilly.

AMERICAN WRESTLING FEDERATION: This group runs in the same geographic area. Promoters Charlie Babb and Ron Martinez recognize Brute Bernard also, and in addition recognize Lars Anderson as their heavyweight Champion, Hardrock Johnson and Mad Dog Mallone as U.S. Tag Team Champions, Whipper Billy Watson Jr. as U.S. Champion, and Tony Robinson as U.S. Champion. Others who have recently wrestled for this promotion have included: Chief Jay Eagle, Gary Royal, Sir Rickton Link, Dave Starr, Johnny Savage, The Hillbilly, Billy Eagle, Luke Tucker, Buddy & Mike Shane, Terry Flynn, Billy Becker, Lawrence Blanton, Don Gilbert, Bob O'Dell, Bulldog Brower, Chris Starr, and lady wrestlers The White Venus and Belle Starr.

INTERNATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING: According to the most recent reports that we have received this promotion's current champions are: Rany "Macho Man" Savage — Heavyweight Champion, and The Convertible Blonds — U.S. Tag Team Champions. Others wrestling for the I.C.W. recently include: Leapin' Lanny, Angelo Poffo, George Weingeroff, Ratamyus, Fazzle Dean, Tony Falk, and the original Great Kabooki.

INTERNATIONAL WRESTLING ASSOCIATION: One of the most successful of the independent promotions, this group does not recognize any champions. Although no titles are involved, the hottest matches in this promotion are the feuds between Bruno Sammartino Jr. and Larry Zbyszko, and Jerry and Johnny Valiant & Pat & Mike Kelly. Others seen on their T.V. cards and recent live cards in New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Ohio have included: Hans Schroeder, Domenic DeNucci, Manuel Soto, Rocky Jones, Giant David, Ed Bonzo, Bill Schmidt, Terry Monton, Steve Bolus, Roberto Soto, Jerry Fazio, Larry Winters, Davey O'Hannon, Ron Shaw, The Comanche, Rocky Raymond, and The Mad Mongolian.

WORLD WRESTLING ASSOCIATION: Another of the real long lasting successful independent promotions, which basically runs T.V. and live cards in Illinois and Indiana. Harley Race currently is the W.W.A. Heavyweight Champion, see story elsewhere in this issue for more details on the belt. Race's most persistent challenger is former champ Dick The Bruiser. Others recently wrestling under the W.W.A. banner include: Dewey Robertson, Rufus R. Jones, Steve Regal, Jerry Valiant, Paul Christy, Omar Atlas, Art Crews, and midget stars Little Koko and Billy The Kid.

MID SOUTH PRO WRESTLING: This group is an entirely different promotion than the Mid South Wrestling Association, which we covered previously. This group runs mainly in the Nashville area and doesn't recognize any titles as far as I can determine. Wrestlers involved here recently have included: Tojo Yamamoto, George Gulas, Roger Howell, Joe Ross, Butch Thorton, The Intern, Ginger (a 735 pound bear), and lady wrestlers Debbie Comb and Donna Day.

ALL STARS PROMOTION LTD: This group is based in Trinidad, and here again I know of no recognized champions. Lady wrestlers Debbie Combs and Donna Day have also recently competed here, along with others including: Tiger Jeet Singh, The Mongolian Stomper, Don Serrano, The Iron Sheik, Whipper Watson Jr., Chris Colt, Fazil Deane, and Angel Rivera.

NIGERIA WRESTLING: I received a report that a recent card held at National Stadium in Lagos, Nigeria, headlined by The Mighty Igor vs. Ray Apollon drew 50,000 people. Other news finds Ben Lion Heart being suspended for six months by local of-

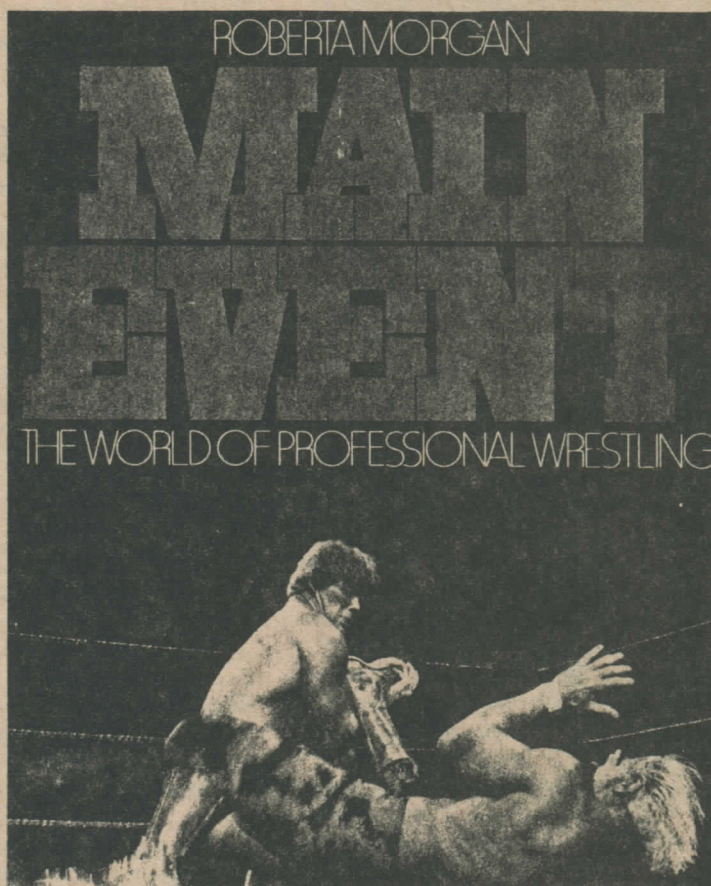
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ficials for tactics that he used in a match against Mil Mascaras. John Quinn, Flash Gordon, Yasu Fuji, and Power Utti have also recently competed for this promotion.

NORTH AMERICAN WRESTLING ALLIANCE: This is another of the promotions operating currently in the Carolinas. Recognized champions are: Buddy Shane — Heavyweight Champion, Tag Team Champions — Buddy & Mike Shane, T.V. Champion — Mr. Wrestling '82, Junior Heavyweight Champion — Chief Jerry Eagle, and Brass Knucks Champion — Brute Bernard.

Others wrestling for this promotion recently have been: The Executioner, Johnny Savage, Bad Cat Ladd, Hard-rock Johnson, T.G. Rhodes, Billy Becker, Jim Tucker, Mike Winterhawk, Jim & Bruce Gallagher, Bobby Stabler, Gary Austin, Pink Graham, Jamica Jones, Rocky McCord, Ken Ruff, Randy Nero, and lady wrestlers — The Fabulous Moolah, who is of course the World's Champion, Wendi Richter, Joyce Grable, Donna Christanello, Terri Shane, Judy Martin, Kandi Malloy, The White Venus, and Vivian St. John.

WESTERN STATES WRESTLING ALLIANCE: This promotion is based in Phoenix, Arizona. Their current recognized champions are: U.S. Heavyweight Champion — Jody Arnold, Southern — John Ringer, and Western States Tag Team Champions — The Lumberjacks, who are managed by Marcial Bovee. Others recently wrestling for this promotion include: The Amarillo Kid, The Maniac, The

Barbarian, Tony & Eli Hernandez, Phil Melby, Tom Ramirez, Rich Winters, The Monster, Pedro El Grande, Mr. Murder, Cherokee Billy & Willie, Eddie Sullivan, The Exorcist, and lady wrestlers Donna Testa and Crystal Ball.

SUPERSTARS OF WRESTLING: This group runs on a regular basis in Detroit's Cobo Hall, and other cities in Michigan and Ohio, and has its own T.V. show. Recognized champions are: Canadian Champion — Greg Wojó, U.S. Champion — Bobo Brazil, and Junior Heavyweight Champion — Chris Carter. Recently Brazil won over "Bulldog" Don Kent by disqualification in a title match when Dr. Jerry Graham Jr. interfered. Graham has also been known to interfere on behalf of Carter, who he manages. Other wrestlers active for this promotion recently have included: John Binello, Bruno Sammartino Jr., Larry Zbyszko, Danny Johnson, Billy "Cool Cat" Jackson, Domenic DeNucci, Johnny Valiant, Rick Bolton, Troy Alexander, Giant David, Bobby Colt, Jim Lancaster, Manuel Soto, and The Masked Bounty Hunter.

MIDWEST CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING: This promotion is based in Lima, Ohio, and holds numerous cards in many of the smaller towns and cities in Ohio. The Patriot won an elimination tournament on October 31st, 1981 to become Midwest Heavyweight Champion, in a match held in Lima. He held those honors until being defeated by Sgt. Bobby Golden on February 17th, 1982 in another Lima match. Golden's victory

was tarnished due to Dr. Jerry Graham Jr. aiding him during that controversial match. Others wrestling for this promotion include: Jim Lancaster, Tom Lynch, Dave Daniels, Joe Collins, Coco Lewis, Greg Wojó, and The Texas Chain Gang.

NEW BRAND WRESTLING: This promotion runs small cards in and around Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada. I don't have much information on their current activities. They still have their T.V. show, but appear to have dropped back to just running one card per month. Their current recognized champions are: Lars Anderson — Heavyweight, Superstar — T.V. Champion, Chris Pepper — Junior Heavyweight Champion, Lars Anderson & The Butcher — Tag Team Champions.

WEST TEXAS WRESTLING ASSOCIATION: We heard about this group for the very first time just recently. I don't know how long they have been in operation, but they currently recognize Danny Sanchez as their singles champion, and Alberto Castro and The Maniac as their tag team champions. Others who have been appearing on their cards have been: Ricky Romero, Chief Running Deer, Terry Daniels, Tommy Reynosa, El Diabolico, Mark Chapman, Oriz Mata, Benny Orta, The Black Shadow, Alvin Martinez, Rick Youngblood, El Mexica, George Dodgen, The Wolfman, Silverstreak, and Karl Von Heller.

CONCLUSION: I would like to thank the following people who sent us information that helped us to compile this month's column — Dick Lankford, Bob Potts, Imants Krumins, Robert Lewis, Marvin Joel Rubin, Joe Palumbo, Kathy Dowd, Jim Ross, John Pinzker, Mario Reyes, Peter Birkholz, Pat Malone, Todd Bragg, Jeff Walton, R.J. Beyer, Elio Zarlenga, Russ Carter, Steve Stogdale, Dave Williams, Doug Chambers, David Williamson, George Hill, Eloise Mascorro, Diane Devine, William Wilson, Larry Matysik, Kate Mast, Linda Churchill, Bruce Krietzman, Greg Theroux, Christine Olson, Colleen Grimsey, David Petrie, Albert Alafa, Allan Cooper, Ojedele Victor Olawale, Andreas Matle, Patrick Williams, Jim Mandl, David Vosh, Gary Causby, Dale Pierce, Howard Pfeiffer, Debbie Combs, Gene Gordon, David Braun, Art Palmer, Brian Hildebrand, Joe & Ron Cunliffe, Candi Runnels, John Johnson, Gary Nothstein, Chuck Thornton, Mitsuru Uehira, Koichi Yoshizawa, and Dr. Ken Zimmer.



The White Venus

THE WRESTLING NEWS® SWAP 'N SELL

BY NORMAN H. KIETZER

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In short, we provide this free service at no charge to anyone, and we make no guarantees for any individuals listed here so if you choose to deal with someone you are doing so at your own risk.

You may wonder why we stress so strongly in each issue of The Wrestling News that you are dealing with people at your own risk. That is because there is no way we can guarantee the honesty and truthfulness of everyone who advertises here. Why then do we have this section in our magazine? Because we feel that this is a service many of our readers want. And we also feel that the vast majority of those who place advertisements here are completely honest. In the rare cases when there are complaints concerning an individual listed here, we will report on them. Remember that we make no judgements concerning the complaints and we also write directly to the individuals who the complaints are filed against and give them a chance to give their side of the matter.

FAN CLUBS

The fan clubs that are listed in The Wrestling Magazine Swap 'N Sell have agreed to provide us with copies of all bulletins and all material that they send to members who join their clubs. We attempt to make this section a consumer's report on the fan clubs concerning our great sport and to review for the benefit of our readers who are interested in joining clubs, the materials that the club provides — and also to keep reporting on how well the club is doing as far as giving the members what they promise to give them within the time frame that they promise.

I would like to stress that the opinions expressed in the various fan club bulletins are those of the presidents of those clubs and not necessarily those of The Wrestling News. We give free advertising to every club that conforms by our rules, not just to those who agree with us on things. This column is being written on December 22, 1982, and reflects correspondence we have received during the month preceding that date.

Michael O'Hara, P.O. Box 651 — Gracie Station, New York, N.Y. 10028 sent us Issue #58 of his Combat Sports Monthly this month. It contained three legal sized sheets of paper folded in half and printed on both sides to form a twelve page bulletin. It was again packed full of clippings and results. Mike charges \$6 for the next six issues or \$12 for the next twelve issues, and he promises a new bulletin each month.

Mr. O'Hara also has three other fan clubs but we received no new material for them. They are Clip Quarterly (last bulletin received was #14 in October), Hulk Hogan (last bulletin we received was #7 in September) and Bulldog Brower (last bulletin we received was a newsletter in September). We will wait until we receive new material before we review these clubs again.

Daniel Billings, Rt. 1, Box 227, Millay Road, Bowdoinham, Maine 04008 sent us bulletin #24 of his Wrestling Writes Fan Club. It consisted of three legal sized sheets printed on both sides. Again it was packed full of news reports, features and information. He charges 75¢ for a single issue, \$3.50 for five issues, or \$10.00 for fifteen issues, and he promises a new issue every three weeks. He also has an Independent Wrestling Action fan club. We received issue #4 from that club this month. He promises a new issue every six weeks and charges \$1.00 dues for a single issue or \$5.50 dues for the next six issues.

Jay F. Steele, 113 Bonvue Street, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15214, sent us bulletin #6 of his Mat Results fan club. It consisted of fourteen 8½ x 11 sheets ditto printed on both sides with news and mainly results. He promises a new bulletin each month and charges \$1.50 for a single copy, \$4.25 for three copies, and \$8.00 for eight issues.

Steve Helwagen, 605 Edgewood Drive, Circleville, Ohio 43113 sent us Issue #13 of his Eastern Wrestling fan club bulletin. This issue contained five 8½ x 11 sheets printed on both sides — packed full of features, news and results. He promises a new issue each month and charges \$1.00 plus a S.A.S.E. for each issue.

Scott Dickinson, 16 Swan Street, Beverly, Mass. 01915, sent us the fourth issue of his WWF Happenings newsletter. It consisted of two pages printed on one side — size 8½ x 11. It was a report on what is happening — mainly in Boston — in the W.W.F. He promises a new issue each month and charges 50¢ for a single issue, \$2.50 for six issues, or \$5.00 for twelve issues.

Tom Gavett, 146 Woodhaven Drive, Pittsburgh, Pa. 15228 sent us the third issue of his bulletin which he now calls Wrestling Update. He promises a new issue every four or five weeks and offers it free to everyone who will write him sending news and results and a stamped envelope in return.

Jerry L. Boyd, 160 Boyds Crossing Road, Griffin, Georgia 30223 sent us four issues of the weekly Georgia Peachstate Wrestling fan club bulletin that he publishes. They had 7 to 9 pages in each issue, printed on both sides of 8½ x 11 paper. He covers Georgia and includes news from other areas as well. He charges 60¢ plus a long S.A.S.E. for each issue.

Butch Whitehead, 908 E. Mt. Vernon, Somerset, Ky 42501 sent us the third issue of his C.W.A. Examiner fan club bulletin. It consisted of seven 8½ x 11 pages printed on one side with pictures, clippings, results and reports on the Jarrett promotions in Kentucky. Butch charges \$1.25 for one issue, \$7.00 for six issues, or \$13.00 for twelve issues and promises a new Examiner each month. He also sends us Issue #3 of his Stan Lane fan club bulletin. It consisted of ten pages printed on one side. He charges \$5.00 annual dues for the Lane club and promises four color photos, a profile sheet on Stan, and four bulletins per year.

Tom Burke, 31 Groveland Street, Springfield, MA 01108, sent us two issues of his Global Wrestling fan club bulletin this month. They were No. 85 and 86 and each consisted of six 8½ x 11 pages that included clippings, results and a column. Although small in size, this bulletin is really packed with information. Tom charges \$1.00 plus a S.A.S.E. for a single issue, \$5.00 for a four-issue subscription, or \$15.00 for a one-year membership in his fan club during which he promises to send out twelve monthly issues of his bulletin. Tom also has an All-Girl Wrestling fan club and sent us Issue No. 13 of that club. He charges \$2.00 plus a S.A.S.E. for each issue of his Girl bulletin. Issue No. 13 consisted of five 8½ x 11 pages printed on both sides. He does not say how often he puts out a bulletin for this club so apparently it is on an irregular schedule.

Jim Schmidt, 149 Redwood Terrace, Williamsville, New York 14221, is a new applicant this month. He sent us issue No. 1 of his Buffalo Backdrop fan club. He promises a new issue each month and charges \$1.00 for a single copy or \$2.50 for three issues. Issue No. 1 consisted of five 8½ x 11 sheets printed on one side, and it included reports from various areas.

Vicky Barton, 154 Creekside, M.H.P., Summerville, S.C. 29483, sent us Issue No. 3 of her Roddy Piper fan club bulletin. It consisted of sixteen 8½ x 11 pages printed on one side. She charges \$8.00 dues per year and in return she promises an autographed 5x7 picture of Roddy, an opening letter from Roddy, and four bulletins per year.

Frank Amato, 80 Countisbury Avenue, North Valley Stream, N.Y. 11580, is another new applicant this month with his Wrestling Event fan club. He promises bulletins four times a year and charges \$1.50 plus two stamps for each bulletin. He sent us copies of two issues. They are No. 2, which consisted of 24 8½ x 11 pages printed on one side, and No. 4, which consisted of 20 8½ x 11 pages printed on one side. The bulletins are packed full of reports, interviews, news and pictures.

That concludes the clubs we received new material from this month. Those we have not heard from are Fred Adams (Georgia Inquirer) who promises a new bulletin each month. His last issue was received in November...Jim Burgett (World/American fan club) who promises a new bulletin each month. His last issue was received in November...Barbi Barker (Wrestling Wire) who promises a new bulletin each month. Her last issue was received in November...Mark June (World Wide Report) promises monthly bulletins but last sent us one in August...Rick Sullivan (Mid Atlanti) promises monthly bulletins but last heard from in August...Roger Thomas (WWF Update) promises monthly bulletins but last heard from in August...J.M. Fiori (W.W.F. Update) promises bi-monthly bulletins but last heard from in June...Don Wilson (Wrestling Fans International Association) promises bi-monthly bulletins but last heard from in July.

Some clubs I have previously reviewed that have not sent new materials but since none is yet due they should still be considered to be in good standing. These include Gail Duncan (Steamboat fan club — she wrote this month that her bulletin would be late but would be out shortly)...Donna Crawford (Wrestling Reporter and Flair fan clubs), Diane Williams (Soul Brothers fan club), Joe Abbott (Wrestling Action fan club), Karen Beckman (A.W.A. fan club) and Bob Stoner (Pittsburgh Piledriver).

WANT ADS

Johnny Tschuta, 105 Metcalf Street, Providence, R.I., 02904, is interested in PURCHASING VHS video cassettes from Boston Garden, Philadelphia Spectrum and Madison Square Garden.

Karen Thorpe, 409 Crastridge, Waterloo, Iowa 50702, would like to purchase photos, results, magazines, drawings, T-shirts, buttons, with specific interest in Jimmy Snuka souvenirs or fan club.

John Heinsen, 100 Southcot Road, Casselberry, FL 32707, would like to buy Japanese wrestling magazines, programs, pictures, etc.

PEN PALS

Kim Anderson, 1509 Carter Place, Sioux Falls, S.D., 57105, would like to have pen pals from the Georgia area or the Minneapolis area, especially fans of Rick Martel, Hulk Hogan, Paul Orndorff or Tito Santana.

Tammy J. Plaisance, P.O. Box 942, Galliano, LA 70354, would like pen pals from all over who are fans of professional wrestling.

Ramona Carter, 305-1035 Powers Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2V 2G7, would like pen pals who share her interest in professional wrestling.

FOR TRADE

Mitsuru Uehira, P.O. Box 49, Nerima, Tokyo, 176-91, Japan, would like to trade video tapes of wrestling in Japan for same of male and female wrestling bouts held in America. He can also send you a list of tapes he has for sale and prices (including postage) for them.

Marty Stobin, 3015 West 13 Mile, Apt. 206, Royal Oak, Michigan 48073, tells us that he wishes to trade VHS color TV wrestling tapes. He is especially interested in Mid-South, (Louisiana), Houston, and St. Louis from 1979 to 1982. He is also looking for good matches from all shows.

John Mezzatesta Jr., 19 North Avenue, Wilmington, DE 19804, would like to trade results and clips with anyone. He promises to answer all letters.

FOR SALE

Shawn Swagler, 4007 Leyden, Des Moines, IA 50317, is offering a poster of Andre the Giant for sale. Send him a S.A.S.E. for details.

The following people have old wrestling magazines and/or programs for sale. They have all agreed to provide a complete list with prices to anyone who sends them a S.A.S.E.

James C. Melby
446 Pierce Street
St. Paul, MN 55104

Ed Young
1105 Daisy Street
Clearfield, PA 16830

Dick Lankford
3222 E. Thompson Street
Philadelphia, PA 19134

Mike Miglieri
245 W. 31st Street
Chicago, IL 60616

John DiArenzo, Jr.
1015 Wolf Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148

Paul Tilson
6522 Kensington Avenue
Richmond, VA 23226

Jack Browning
4850 S. Loomis Blvd.
Chicago, IL 60609

PHOTOS FOR SALE

Kenny Carpenter, 103 Hill Creek Drive, Whitehouse, TX 75791, will send you a list of the photos he has in return for a S.A.S.E.

Doug Parks, 1523 Palmer, Pueblo, Colorado 81004 has three lists of wrestling photos for sale — Men, Women, and Midgets. He asks that you send him 50¢ for a S.A.S.E. for all three lists if you are interested.

Butch Fletcher, 629 Trube, Alton, Ill. 62002 is asking 25¢ and a S.A.S.E. for the list of photos that he has for sale.

Joe and Ron Cunliffe, P.O. Box 265, Lansdowne, Pa. 19050 have a photo list containing many, many stars from the WWF area, plus others from other areas. They ask that you send them \$1.00 for which they will send you an eighteen page list plus a free sample photo.

Laura J. Zoffka, 93 Rexford Drive, Newport News, Virginia 23602 continues to have photos of Mid Atlantic stars for sale. For complete details send a S.A.S.E. She asks us to mention that she is shortly going into the hospital for an operation which will temporarily slow down her responses, but promises to eventually answer all and fill all orders.

Pete Lederberg, 3286 Foxcroft Road, #E-309, Miramar, Florida 33025, has photos of wrestling from the state for sale. Send him a S.A.S.E. for a complete list.

Bruce Viner, 420 W. Belmont #22-F, Chicago, Illinois 60657 will provide you with a list of photos he has for sale in return for a self addressed envelope with two stamps.

Howard Baum, 333-09 Ives Dairy Road, North Miami Beach, Florida 33179, has photos for sale. He charges \$1.50 plus a legal sized self addressed stamped envelope for his list and a sample photo.

Linda Churchill, 1210 S. 7th, Kelso, Washington 98626, has photos of northwest wrestlers plus Roddy Piper, Ric Flair, Andre, Jay Youngblood, and lady wrestlers for sale. Please send her a self-addressed, stamped envelope for complete list.

Terrance R. Machalek, 448 Jefferson Avenue, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada R2V 0N2, requests that you send \$1.00 for his giant list of over 3,000 photo that he is selling.

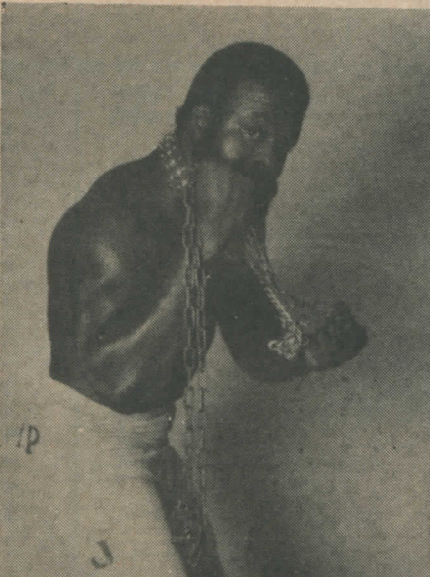
Dale Pierce, Box 23241, Phoenix, Arizona 85063, has wrestling photos of Western States Wrestling Alliance grapplers. Send him a self addressed stamped envelope for complete details.

Gene Gordon, 413 North Deal Avenue, Newton, North Carolina 28658, has three lists of wrestling photos he is selling: girls, men, and midgets. For each list send two 20¢ stamps.

Evan R. Trehan, Ringsport (R), 5 Stockland Street, Caerphilly, Mid-Glam CF81GD, Great Britain, has photosets of strong women and lady wrestlers for sale. Details can be found in the magazine he publishes — Ringsport — which is now in its 23rd year. We recently received that 202nd issue — 16 pages on heavy glossy paper. If you are interested in becoming a subscriber to Ringsport the cost is \$10.00 for an annual subscription. Evan accepts dollar bills only from U.S. subscribers to avoid heavy bank charges. The cost for British subscribers is £5.00.

John Lawson, 618 South Center Street, Terre Haut, Indiana 47807, has both color and black & white photos for sale. For his list send him a self addressed stamped envelope.

All who are interested in being listed in this section of The Wrestling News should send a S.A.S.E. to SWAP N' SELL, P.O. Box 3325, Mankato, Minnesota 56002. We will send you an application in return.



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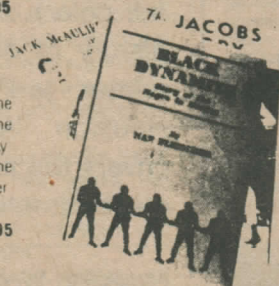
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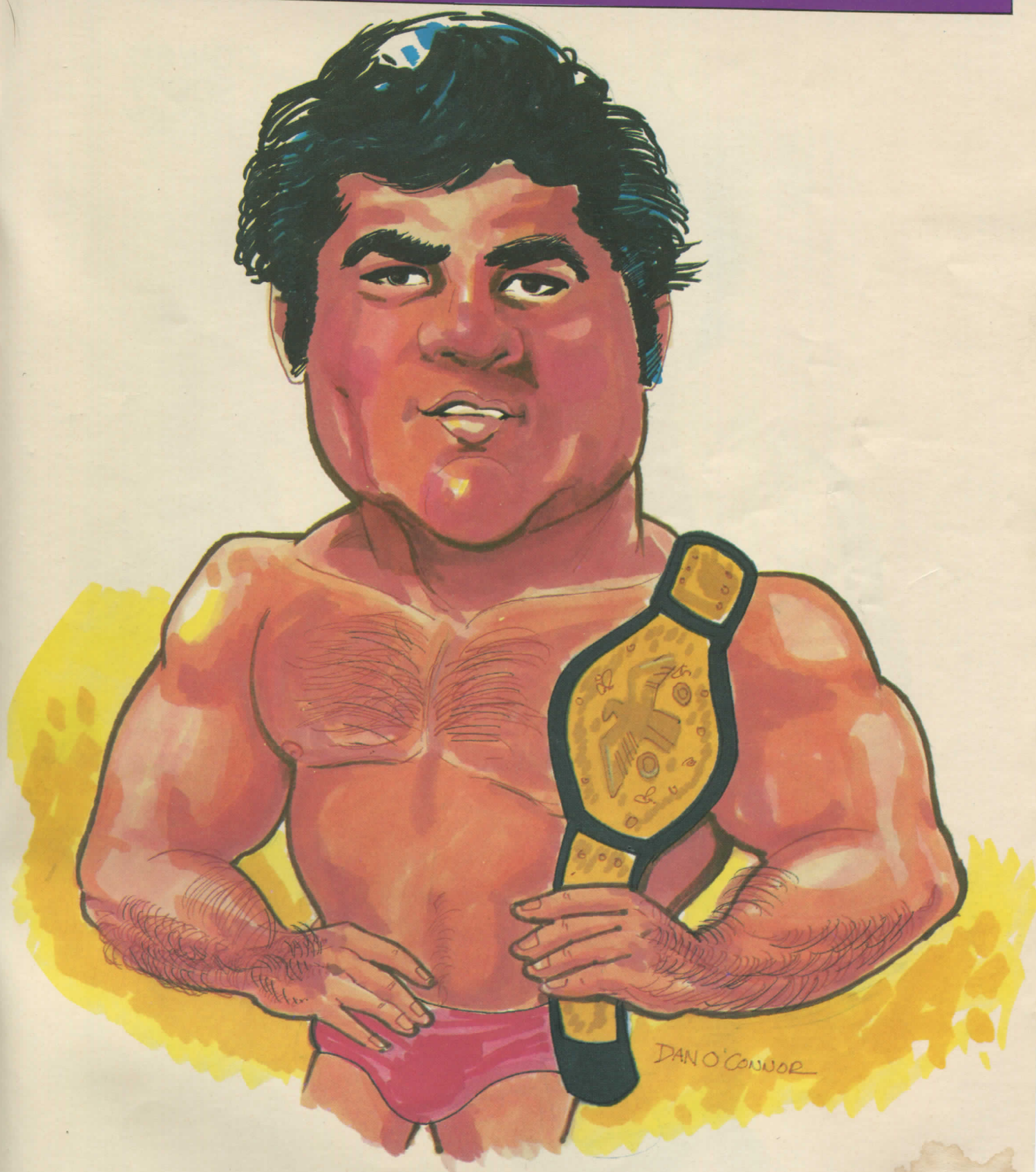
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